

WSR 21-16-065

PROPOSED RULES

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

[Filed July 30, 2021, 9:03 a.m.]

Original Notice.

Preproposal statement of inquiry was filed as WSR 21-07-066.

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 182-503-0535
Washington apple health—Citizenship and immigration status.

Hearing Location(s): On September 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. The health care authority (HCA) remains closed in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency. Until further notice, HCA continues to hold public hearings virtually without a physical meeting place. This promotes social distancing and the safety of the residents of Washington state. To attend the virtual public hearing, you must register in advance https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kgAzsWy4RSChdQxJ-029. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the public hearing.

Date of Intended Adoption: Not sooner than September 8, 2021.

Submit Written Comments to: HCA Rules Coordinator, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, email arc@hca.wa.gov, fax 360-586-9727, by September 7, 2021.

Assistance for Persons with Disabilities: Contact Amber Lougheed, phone 360-725-1349, fax 360-586-9727, telecommunication[s] relay service 711, email amber.lougheed@hca.wa.gov, by August 27, 2021.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The agency is amending this section to align with the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Sec. 208) which restored eligibility for medicaid benefits for individuals from the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: See purpose.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Sec. 208.

Rule is necessary because of federal law, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Sec. 208.

Agency Comments or Recommendations, if any, as to Statutory Language, Implementation, Enforcement, and Fiscal Matters: Not applicable.

Name of Proponent: HCA, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Michael Williams, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, 360-725-1346; Implementation and Enforcement: Ariel Pyrtek, P.O. Box 43022, Olympia, WA 98504-3022, 360-725-1919.

A school district fiscal impact statement is not required under RCW 28A.305.135.

A cost-benefit analysis is not required under RCW 34.05.328. RCW 34.05.328 does not apply to HCA rules unless requested by the joint administrative rules review committee or applied voluntarily.

The proposed rule does not impose more-than-minor costs on businesses. Following is a summary of the agency's analysis showing how costs were calculated. The changes to the proposed rules apply to clients and do not impose any costs on businesses.

July 30, 2021

Wendy Barcus

OTS-3108.2

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-10-002, filed 4/22/15, effective 5/23/15)

WAC 182-503-0535 Washington apple health—Citizenship and immigration status. (1) Definitions.

(a) **Nonqualified alien** means someone who is lawfully present in the United States (U.S.) but who is not a qualified alien, a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or a qualifying American Indian born abroad.

(b) **Qualified alien** means someone who is lawfully present in the United States and who is one or more of the following:

(i) A person lawfully admitted for permanent residence (LPR).

(ii) An abused spouse or child, a parent of an abused child, or a child of an abused spouse who no longer resides with the person who committed the abuse, and who has one of the following:

(A) A pending or approved I-130 petition or application to immigrate as an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen or as the spouse of an unmarried LPR younger than twenty-one years of age.

(B) Proof of a pending application for suspension of deportation or cancellation of removal under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

(C) A notice of prima facie approval of a pending self-petition under VAWA. An abused spouse's petition covers his or her child if the child is younger than twenty-one years of age. In that case, the child retains qualified alien status even after he or she turns twenty-one years of age.

(iii) A person who has been granted parole into the U.S. for one year or more, under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) Section 212 (d) (5), including public interest parolees.

(iv) A member of a Hmong or Highland Laotian tribe that rendered military assistance to the U.S. between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975, including the spouse, unremarried widow or widower, and unmarried dependent child of the tribal member.

(v) A person who was admitted into the U.S. as a conditional entrant under INA Section 203 (a) (7) before April 1, 1980.

(vi) A person admitted to the U.S. as a refugee under INA Section 207.

(vii) A person who has been granted asylum under INA Section 208.

(viii) A person granted withholding of deportation or removal under INA Section 243(h) or 241 (b) (3).

(ix) A Cuban or Haitian national who was paroled into the U.S. or given other special status.

(x) An Amerasian child of a U.S. citizen under 8 C.F.R. Section 204.4(a).

(xi) A person from Iraq or Afghanistan who has been granted special immigrant status under INA Section 101 (a) (27).

(xii) A person who has been certified or approved as a victim of trafficking by the federal office of refugee resettlement, or who is:

(A) The spouse or child of a trafficking victim of any age; or

(B) The parent or minor sibling of a trafficking victim who is younger than twenty-one years of age.

(xiii) A person from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, or the Republic of the Marshall Islands living in the United States in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association.

(c) **U.S. citizen** means someone who is a United States citizen under federal law.

(d) **U.S. national** means someone who is a United States national under federal law.

(e) **Undocumented person** means someone who is not lawfully present in the U.S.

(f) **Qualifying American Indian born abroad** means someone who:

(i) Was born in Canada and has at least fifty percent American Indian blood, regardless of tribal membership; or

(ii) Was born outside of the United States and is a member of a federally recognized tribe or an Alaska Native enrolled by the Secretary of the Interior under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

(2) **Eligibility.**

(a) A U.S. citizen, U.S. national or qualifying American Indian born abroad may be eligible for:

(i) Apple health for adults;

(ii) Apple health for kids;

(iii) Apple health for pregnant women; or

(iv) Classic medicaid.

(b) A qualified alien who meets or is exempt from the five-year bar may be eligible for:

(i) Apple health for adults;

(ii) Apple health for kids;

(iii) Apple health for pregnant women; or

(iv) Classic medicaid.

(c) A qualified alien who neither meets nor is exempt from the five-year bar may be eligible for:

(i) Alien medical programs;

(ii) Apple health for kids;

(iii) Apple health for pregnant women; or

(iv) Medical care services.

(d) A nonqualified alien may be eligible for:

(i) Alien medical programs;

(ii) Apple health for kids;

(iii) Apple health for pregnant women; or

(iv) Medical care services.

(e) An undocumented person may be eligible for:

(i) Alien medical programs;

(ii) State-only funded apple health for kids; or

(iii) State-only funded apple health for pregnant women.

(3) **The five-year bar.**

(a) A qualified alien meets the five-year bar if he or she:

(i) Continuously resided in the U.S. for five years or more from the date he or she became a qualified alien; or

(ii) Entered the U.S. before August 22, 1996, and:

(A) Became a qualified alien before August 22, 1996; or

(B) Became a qualified alien on or after August 22, 1996, and has continuously resided in the U.S. between the date of entry into the U.S. and the date he or she became a qualified alien.

(b) A qualified alien is exempt from the five-year bar if he or she is:

(i) A qualified alien as defined in subsection ~~((s))~~ (1) (b) (vi) through ~~((xii))~~ (xiii) of this section;

(ii) An LPR, parolee, or abused person, who is also an armed services member or veteran, or a family member of an armed services member or veteran, as described below:

(A) An active-duty member of the U.S. military, other than active-duty for training;

(B) An honorably discharged U.S. veteran;

(C) A veteran of the military forces of the Philippines who served before July 1, 1946, as described in Title 38 U.S.C. Section 107; or

(D) The spouse, unremarried widow or widower, or unmarried dependent child of an honorably discharged U.S. veteran or active-duty member of the U.S. military.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160. WSR 15-10-002, § 182-503-0535, filed 4/22/15, effective 5/23/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, Public Law 111-148, 42 C.F.R. § 431, 435, and 457, and 45 C.F.R. § 155. WSR 14-16-052, § 182-503-0535, filed 7/29/14, effective 8/29/14.]