

WSR 22-15-074

PERMANENT RULES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Filed July 18, 2022, 9:03 a.m., effective December 1, 2022]

Effective Date of Rule: December 1, 2022.

Purpose: WAC 246-840-990 Fees and renewal cycle. The department of health (department), in consultation with the nursing care quality assurance commission (commission), amended WAC 246-840-990 to implement fee changes for registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs). RCW 43.70.250 requires that the costs of licensing each profession be fully borne by members of that profession. The fee increases are necessary: To cover the cost of a database solution to replace an outdated licensing system; for staffing to continue nurse license processing within legislated timelines; and for staffing to address increased workload associated with nursing assistants and the long-term care crisis.

The application and renewal fee will increase for RNs by \$15 from \$99 to \$114. The application and renewal fee will increase for LPNs by \$5 from \$64 to \$69. RNs and LPNs pay a renewal fee each year. The application and renewal fee for ARNPs will increase by \$5 from \$125 to \$130. ARNPs pay a renewal every two years, but ARNPs must also pay the RN renewal fee each year. A fee change for nursing technicians (nursing students working up to their level of education) will not occur at this time because there are far fewer in the profession and raising fees for them would cause an undue burden financially. A \$16 surcharge for an online evidence-based library for health professionals in Washington state provided by the University of Washington (HEAL-WA) and a surcharge of \$5 to support the Washington Center for Nursing did not increase. These surcharges are added to the fees shown above and impact the total fees for applications and renewals. These surcharges are mandated by the Washington state legislature.

A technical change was made to WAC 246-840-990(5) to clearly identify rules in another WAC chapter with which the commission must comply. No language, only numerical changes were made to this subsection of rule from the proposed rule to the adopted version.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 246-840-990.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 18.36A.060, 18.36A.140, 43.70.110, 43.70.250, 43.70.280.

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 22-10-104 on May 4, 2022.

Changes Other than Editing from Proposed to Adopted Version: After the June 13, 2022, public hearing, new year-end fiscal information was reviewed. Total revenue in the last year was higher than originally forecast. The department, in consultation with the commission, determined that the fee increase for RNs should be less than originally proposed and has been decreased from \$25 to \$15 based on the adjusted projections. The language of the adopted rule differs from the proposed rule in that the RN fee is now \$114.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: July 18, 2022.

Kristin Peterson, JD  
Deputy Secretary  
Policy and Planning  
for Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH  
Secretary

**OTS-3711.2**

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-07-038, filed 3/8/17, effective 7/1/17)

**WAC 246-840-990 Fees and renewal cycle.** (1) A licensed practical nurse (LPN) or a registered nurse (RN) must renew his or her license every year on the licensee's birthday.

(2) When applying for a license an applicant for an initial or renewal LPN license or RN license must pay, in addition to the application fee, the University of Washington (UW) health sciences online library access (HEAL-WA) surcharge and the central nursing resource center (nursing center) surcharge, as required in RCW 43.70.110.

(3) An advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) must renew his or her license every two years on the licensee's birthday. An ARNP must also hold a valid RN license and pay all associated fees every year on the licensee's birthday.

(4) A nursing technician must renew his or her registration every year on the practitioner's birthday. The renewal must be accompanied by an attestation as required in RCW 18.79.370 that includes the nursing technician's anticipated graduation date. If the anticipated graduation date is within one year, the registration will expire (~~thirty~~) 30 days after the anticipated graduation date. The expiration date may be extended to (~~sixty~~) 60 days after graduation if the nursing technician can show good cause as defined in WAC 246-840-010(15).

(5) A practitioner who holds more than one credential will be charged separate fees for each credential, in compliance with (~~chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2~~) WAC 246-12-020 through 246-12-051 and RCW 43.70.110.

(6) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

**Application Fees**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner <sup>1</sup>	Nursing Technician
Application Fee	<del>((99))</del> <u>114</u>	<del>((64))</del> <u>69</u>	<del>((125))</del> <u>130</u>	25

HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>((120))</u></b>	<b><u>((85)) 90</u></b>	<b><u>((125))</u></b>	<b><u>25</u></b>
	<b><u>135</u></b>		<b><u>130</u></b>	

<sup>1</sup>Pays a \$125 application fee per specialty license. If not currently a licensed RN, must also pay RN application fees.

### On Time Renewal

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner <sup>2</sup>	Nursing Technician
Renewal Fee	<u>((99))</u>	<u>((64)) 69</u>	<u>((125))</u>	25
	<u>114</u>		<u>130</u>	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>((120))</u></b>	<b><u>((85)) 90</u></b>	<b><u>((125))</u></b>	<b><u>25</u></b>
	<b><u>135</u></b>		<b><u>130</u></b>	

<sup>2</sup>Pays a \$125 renewal fee per specialty license once every ((2)) two years. Must also renew RN license every year.

### Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner <sup>3</sup>	Nursing Technician
Renewal Fee	<u>((99))</u>	<u>((64)) 69</u>	<u>((125))</u>	25
	<u>114</u>		<u>130</u>	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0	0
Late Renewal Penalty	50	50	50	25
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>((170))</u></b>	<b><u>((135))</u></b>	<b><u>((175))</u></b>	<b><u>50</u></b>
	<b><u>185</u></b>	<b><u>140</u></b>	<b><u>180</u></b>	

<sup>3</sup>Pays \$50 per specialty license in late fees.

### Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
Renewal Fee	<u>((99))</u>	<u>((64)) 69</u>	<u>((125))</u>
	<u>114</u>		<u>130</u>
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0
Late Renewal Penalty	50	50	50
Expired Licenses Reissuance	70	70	0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>((240))</u></b>	<b><u>((205))</u></b>	<b><u>((175))</u></b>
	<b><u>255</u></b>	<b><u>210</u></b>	<b><u>180</u></b>

### Retired Active Renewal

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse
Renewal Fee	44	44
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>65</u></b>	<b><u>65</u></b>

**Retired Active Renewal—Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse
Renewal Fee	44	44
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5
Late Renewal Penalty	45	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>110</b>

**Retired Active Renewal—Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse
Renewal Fee	44	44
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5
Late Renewal Penalty	45	45
Expired License Reissuance	70	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>

**Inactive License Renewal**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
Renewal Fee	44	44	40
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>40</b>

**Inactive License Renewal—Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
Renewal Fee	44	44	40
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0
Late Renewal Penalty	45	45	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>80</b>

**Inactive License Renewal—Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
Renewal Fee	44	44	40
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	5	5	0
Late Renewal Penalty	45	45	40
Expired License Reissuance	40	40	40

**Total** **150** **150** **120**

**Other fees**

	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	Nursing Technician
Duplicate licensee or registration	20	20	20	15
Verification of licensure	25	25	25	25

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. WSR 17-07-038, § 246-840-990, filed 3/8/17, effective 7/1/17. Statutory Authority: 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4, 2013 c 249 § 219, RCW 18.130.250, and 43.70.250. WSR 13-24-097, § 246-840-990, filed 12/3/13, effective 2/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110 (3)(c) and 43.70.250. WSR 12-19-088, § 246-840-990, filed 9/18/12, effective 11/1/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 2010 c 37. WSR 10-19-071, § 246-840-990, filed 9/16/10, effective 10/15/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, 2008 c 329. WSR 08-15-014, § 246-840-990, filed 7/7/08, effective 7/7/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.010, 43.70.250, and 2005 c 268. WSR 05-20-107, § 246-840-990, filed 10/5/05, effective 11/5/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250, [43.70.]280 and 43.70.110. WSR 05-12-012, § 246-840-990, filed 5/20/05, effective 7/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250 and chapter 18.79 RCW. WSR 04-04-054, § 246-840-990, filed 1/30/04, effective 1/30/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-840-990, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.79 RCW. WSR 97-23-075, § 246-840-990, filed 11/19/97, effective 1/12/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.200. WSR 95-12-021, § 246-840-990, filed 5/31/95, effective 7/1/95.]