WSR 26-03-056
AGENDA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
[Filed January 15, 2026, 12:02 p.m.]

Semi-Annual Rule-Making Agenda (January - July 2026)

The employment security department (ESD) prepares a semi-annual rule-making agenda in January and July each year to inform the public of expected upcoming rule changes. Pursuant to RCW 34.05.314, the agenda is published in the Washington State Register.

ESD encourages the public to be involved in the rule-making processes by attending public hearings and submitting comments on rules. To stay informed of our progress and be notified of any changes, please sign up for email notifications at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAESD/subscriber/new. Additional rule-making information is available on the ESD website.

Subject Matter or Division	WAC Chapter or Sections	Purpose and Scope of Rule Making	Preproposal Notice Filings (CR-101)	Proposed Rule and Public Hearing Filings (CR-102 or CR-105 Expedited)	Permanent Rule Filing (CR-103)
Unemployment insurance benefits	192-01-001	Implementing ESSB 5525 by updating ESD's rule governance statement to include the provisions in Title 49 RCW added by the bill.	N/A	September 5, 2025, as WSR 25-19-026	December 11, 2025, as WSR 26-01-060
Unemployment insurance benefits	192-460-150	Implementing ESSB 5525 by clarifying that information about impacted employees received by ESD in employer notices will be used to implement Title 50 RCW.	August 20, 2025, as WSR 25-17-088	December 4, 2025, as WSR 26-01-016	To be determined
Unemployment insurance benefits	192-04-170	Updating the requirements for filings with the commissioner's review office.	April 30, 2025, as WSR 25-10-035	August 13, 2025, as WSR 25-17-030	October 29, 2025, as WSR 25-22-038
Unemployment insurance benefits	192-150-115, 192-150-120, and 192-320-071	Implementing HB [SHB] 1570 (2023).	May 15, 2023, as WSR 23-11-067	August 20, 2025, as WSR 25-17-090	January 15, 2026, as WSR 26-03-055
Paid family and medical leave	192-500-010, 192-500-185, 192-510-040, 192-510-050, 192-560-010, 192-560-011 (repealed), 192-560-020, 192-620-005, 192-700-008 (new), 192-700-015, 192-700-020, 192-700-025 (new), 192-700-030 (new), and 192-800-100	Implementing 2025 legislation (E2SHB 1213 and SSB 5191) related to benefit eligibility requirements, employer sizing, small business grants, definitions, required notices, employment restoration rights, continuation of health benefits, and petitions for review. Repealing a pandemic leave assistance rule.	May 29, 2025, as WSR 25-12-056	October 22, 2025, as WSR 25-21-149	December 5, 2025, as WSR 26-01-027
Paid family and medical leave	192-700-010	Implementing 2025 legislation (ESSB 5525) addressing mass layoffs and business closures.	N/A	October 22, 2025, as WSR 25-21-158	January 14, 2026, as WSR 26-03-045

Subject Matter or Division	WAC Chapter or Sections	Purpose and Scope of Rule Making	Preproposal Notice Filings (CR-101)	Proposed Rule and Public Hearing Filings (CR-102 or CR-105 Expedited)	Permanent Rule Filing (CR-103)
Long-term services and supports trust (WA Cares fund)	192-905-005, 192-905-006, 192-905-008 (new), 192-905-009 (new), 192-905-020, 192-910-015, 192-920-005, 192-940-010, 192-940-011 (new), new chapter 192-950 WAC, 192-950-005 (new), 192-950-010 (new), and 192-950-015 (new)	Implementing 2025 legislation (ESSB 5291) related to a pilot project, qualifying for benefits, a new voluntary exemption for off-duty civilian employment for active-duty service members, automatic exemptions for nonimmigrant work visa holders, voluntary rescission of private long-term care insurance exemptions, collective bargaining agreement participation, and outlining ESD's process for determinations.	May 28, 2025, as WSR 25-12-047	September 17, 2026, as WSR 25-19-099	December 1, 2025, as WSR 25-24-065
Long-term services and supports trust (WA Cares fund)	To be determined	Implementing 2025 legislation (ESSB 5291) related to out-of-state participant election of coverage and reporting requirements, and self-employed elective coverage reporting requirements.	October 13, 2025, as WSR 25-21-062	To be determined	To be determined

ESD is responsible for initiating rule making to implement new state laws, meet federal requirements, and meet unforeseen circumstances. Because of this variability, this agenda is prepared for informational purposes only and any dates noted herein are planning estimates that are subject to change. Rule making can occur in addition to what is listed on the agenda.

This agenda does not constitute a rule or rule-making action. Any errors or omissions in this agenda do not affect the actual rules or rule-making notices filed with the office of the code reviser and published in the Washington State Register.

The rule-making process can appear complex. ESD has outlined the process on its website to help constituents understand and become involved at https://www.esd.wa.gov/newsroom/rulemaking-process. If you have additional questions, contact the ESD rules coordinator, Janette Benham, phone 360-790-6583, email rules@esd.wa.gov.