WSR 26-16-042
PERMANENT RULES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery)
[Filed July 30, 2026, 8:43 a.m., effective August 30, 2026]

Effective Date of Rule: Thirty-one days after filing.

Purpose: Continuing education (CE) certification requirements for osteopathic physicians.

The board of osteopathic medicine and surgery (board) is adopting amendments to WAC 246-853-080 to update the osteopathic physician CE requirements and specify that a maintenance of a certification program may satisfy CE requirements.

The adopted changes add an additional pathway to allow licensed osteopathic physicians to meet CE requirements by participation in maintenance of certification with a member board of the American Board of Osteopathic Medical Specialties or the American Board of Medical Specialties at the time of renewal.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 246-853-080.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 18.57.005, 18.130.050, and 18.130.250.

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 26-09-112 on April 21, 2026.

A final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting Becky Cornwall, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 360-236-4766, fax 360-236-2850, TTY 711, email osteopathic@doh.wa.gov.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.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: June 5, 2026.

Yuri Tsirulnikov, DO, Chair
Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery

RDS-6754.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-24-038, filed 11/25/24, effective 12/26/24)

WAC 246-853-080 Continuing education. (1) Licensed osteopathic physicians and surgeons must complete 150 hours of creditable continuing medical education (CME) every three years in accordance with chapter 246-12 WAC.

(2) To satisfy the CME requirements in subsection (1) of this section, a licensed osteopathic physician and surgeon may:

(a) Certify or recertify with the American Board of Osteopathic Medical Specialties (ABOMS) or the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) within the last six years;

(b) Meet the requirements for participation in maintenance of certification of a member board of the ABOMS or ABMS at the time of renewal;

(c) Hold a current American Osteopathic Association (AOA) certificate of excellence in CME; or

((~~(c)~~)) (d) Hold a current American Medical Association (AMA) physician's recognition award (PRA).

(3) In addition to subsection (2) of this section, the licensed osteopathic physician and surgeon must complete any Washington state-specific mandated continuing education requirements.