

WSATC RCW/WAC Subcommittee Report

Submitted for July 2024

RCW/WAC Subcommittee Members	Attendees and Staff
April Sims, chair Jeremy Clevenger David D'Hondt Scott Middleton Mark Riker Halene Sigmund	Rep. Suzanne Schmidt, ex-officio Patrick Martin Kristin Murphy

The RCW/WAC subcommittee met on June 27, 2024 via Teams. The subcommittee continues to focus on the ways to improve the objections process. In particular, the following topics are underway:

Rulemaking – WAC 296-05-008(3) Apprenticeship Program Submission Deadline

- Rulemaking is in process for the proposed amendment to WAC 296-05-008(3).
- This rulemaking would adjust the program submission deadline from 45 days before the next WSATC meeting to 60 days before the next meeting.
- The CR-102 form is anticipated to be filed with the Code Reviser by August 6, 2024.
- A virtual public hearing is planned for September 10, 2024.
- The written comment period is planned for August 6 through September 10, 2024.
- The anticipated effective date of the rule change is planned to be no later than November 17, 2024, which aligns with the 60-day deadline for the January 2025 WSATC meeting.

Notice of Objection Form – possible revisions

- The subcommittee is currently reviewing proposed revisions to L&I's Objections Form.
- The purpose of the revisions is to be clearer about who can object, what can be objected to, and expectations for filing a complete form.
- The subcommittee will provide feedback to L&I by the end of July. A second draft is planned for August and will be discussed during the subcommittee's September meeting.

In addition, the subcommittee continued discussions concerning the definition of "supervision" in WAC 296-05-003. L&I will provide information for the subcommittee to consider and then discuss during the next subcommittee meeting in September.

The mediation pilot project for objections is continuing. L&I's Firm Appeals program, which includes trained mediators and legal professionals, has been providing mediation services. As the pilot project progresses, lessons learned and data are being compiled to inform future decisions about the process.

The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
April Sims, Chair – WSATC RCW/WAC Subcommittee