



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (July 2022)
(Implements RCW 34.05.320)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: October 25, 2023

TIME: 9:17 AM

WSR 23-22-055

Agency: The Health Care Authority

Original Notice

Supplemental Notice to WSR 23-17-086

Continuance of WSR _____

Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 23-13-024 ; or

Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or

Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or

Proposal is exempt under RCW _____.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) 182-535A-0040 Orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services – Covered, noncovered, and limitations to coverage

Hearing location(s):

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
December 5, 2023	10:00 AM	The Health Care Authority holds public hearings virtually without a physical meeting place.	To attend the virtual public hearing, you must register in advance: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3tyz-700QNW4WTLvVvp-jA If the link above opens with an error message, please try using a different browser or copy and paste the web link to your browser. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the public hearing.

Date of intended adoption: December 6, 2023 (Note: This is **NOT** the effective date)

Submit written comments to:

Name: HCA Rules Coordinator

Address: PO Box 42716, Olympia WA 98504-2716

Email: arc@hca.wa.gov

Fax: 360-586-9727

Other:

By (date) December 5, 2023, by 11:59 PM

Assistance for persons with disabilities:

Contact Johanna Larson

Phone: 360-725-1349

Fax: 360-586-9727

TTY: Telecommunication Relay Services (TRS): 711

Email: Johanna.larson@hca.wa.gov

Other:

By (date) November 17, 2023

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The agency held a public hearing on September 26, 2023, on WAC 182-535A-0040 to make the requirements for “case study” less restrictive in subsection (5)(c). The agency removed “when done in conjunction with limited or comprehensive treatment only” and replaced it with “when done in conjunction with orthodontic treatment.”

After the public hearing, the agency recognized that another revision to this section was necessary to make the language less restrictive around who must perform treatment and follow-up care. The agency revised the language for who can provide treatment and follow-up care to read “by a provider who is part of a craniofacial team that includes, but is not limited to, a general or pediatric dentist, orthodontist, and a maxillofacial surgeon or specialist.” The agency removed “only by an orthodontist or agency-recognized craniofacial team.”

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

Is rule necessary because of a:

- Federal Law? Yes No
Federal Court Decision? Yes No
State Court Decision? Yes No

If yes, CITATION:

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters: None

Type of proponent: Private Public Governmental

Name of proponent: (person or organization) Health Care Authority

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Valerie Freudenstein	PO Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716	360-725-1344
Implementation:	Janice Tadeo	PO Box 45506, Olympia, WA 98504-5506	360-725-1583
Enforcement:	Janice Tadeo	PO Box 45506, Olympia, WA 98504-5506	360-725-1583

Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under [RCW 28A.305.135](#)?

Yes No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

- Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Other:

Is a cost-benefit analysis required under [RCW 34.05.328](#)?

Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

- Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Other:

No: Please explain: RCW 34.05.328 does not apply to Health Care Authority rules unless requested by the Joint Administrative Rules Review Committee or applied voluntarily.

Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement

Note: The [Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance \(ORIA\)](#) provides support in completing this part.

(1) Identification of exemptions:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see [chapter 19.85 RCW](#)). For additional information on exemptions, consult the [exemption guide published by ORIA](#). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.061](#) because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by [RCW 34.05.313](#) before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of [RCW 15.65.570\(2\)](#) because it was adopted by a referendum.

- This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(3\)](#). Check all that apply:
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(b)
(Internal government operations) | <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(e)
(Dictated by statute) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(c)
(Incorporation by reference) | <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(f)
(Set or adjust fees) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(d)
(Correct or clarify language) | <input type="checkbox"/> RCW 34.05.310 (4)(g)
(i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit) |
- This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025\(4\)](#) (does not affect small businesses).
- This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW _____.

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule:

(2) Scope of exemptions: *Check one.*

- The rule proposal is fully exempt (*skip section 3*). Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.
- The rule proposal is partially exempt (*complete section 3*). The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):
- The rule proposal is not exempt (*complete section 3*). No exemptions were identified above.

(3) Small business economic impact statement: *Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.*

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

- No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs. The agency is amending these rules to be less restrictive and provide more precise language to define the program parameters and ensure consistency. This change does not impose a more-than-minor cost.
- Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Other:

Date: October 25, 2023

Name: Wendy Barcus

Title: HCA Rules Coordinator

Signature:



WAC 182-535A-0040 Orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services—Covered, noncovered, and limitations to coverage. Orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services require prior authorization.

(1) The medicaid agency covers orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services for a client who has one of the medical conditions listed in (a) and (b) of this subsection. Treatment and follow-up care must be performed (~~only by an orthodontist or agency-recognized craniofacial team~~) by a provider who is part of a craniofacial team that includes, but is not limited to, a general or pediatric dentist, orthodontist, and an oral maxillofacial surgeon or specialist.

(a) Cleft lip and palate, cleft palate, or cleft lip.

(b) The following craniofacial anomalies including, but not limited to:

- (i) Hemifacial microsomia;
- (ii) Craniosynostosis syndromes;
- (iii) Cleidocranial dental dysplasia;
- (iv) Arthrogyrosis;
- (v) Marfan syndrome;
- (vi) Treacher Collins syndrome;
- (vii) Ectodermal dysplasia; or
- (viii) Achondroplasia.

(2) The agency authorizes orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services when the following criteria are met:

(a) Severe malocclusions with a Washington Modified Handicapping Labiolingual Deviation (HLD) Index Score of 25 or higher as determined by the agency;

(b) The client has established caries control; and

(c) The client has established plaque control.

(3) The agency covers orthodontic treatment for dental malocclusions other than those listed in subsections (1) and (2) of this section on a case-by-case basis when the agency determines medical necessity based on documentation submitted by the provider.

(4) The agency does not cover the following orthodontic treatment or orthodontic-related services:

(a) Orthodontic treatment for cosmetic purposes;

(b) Orthodontic treatment that is not medically necessary;

(c) Orthodontic treatment provided out-of-state, except as stated in WAC 182-501-0180 (see also WAC 182-501-0175 for medical care provided in bordering cities); or

(d) Orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services that do not meet the requirements of this section or other applicable WAC.

(5) The agency covers the following orthodontic treatment and orthodontic-related services:

(a) Limited orthodontic treatment.

(b) Comprehensive full orthodontic treatment on adolescent dentition.

(c) A case study when done in conjunction with (~~limited or comprehensive~~) orthodontic treatment (~~only~~).

(d) Other orthodontic treatment subject to review for medical necessity as determined by the agency.

(6) The agency covers the following orthodontic-related services:

- (a) Clinical oral evaluations according to WAC 182-535-1080.
- (b) Cephalometric films that are of diagnostic quality, dated, and labeled with the client's name.
- (c) Orthodontic appliance removal as a stand-alone service only when:
 - (i) The client's appliance was placed by a different provider or dental clinic; and
 - (ii) The provider has not furnished any other orthodontic treatment or orthodontic-related services to the client.
- (7) The treatment must meet industry standards and correct the medical issue. If treatment is discontinued prior to completion, or treatment objectives are not achieved, the provider must:
 - (a) Document in the client's record why treatment was discontinued or not completed, or why treatment goals were not achieved.
 - (b) Notify the agency by submitting the Orthodontic Discontinuation of Service form (HCA 13-0039).
- (8) The agency evaluates a request for orthodontic treatment or orthodontic-related services:
 - (a) That are in excess of the limitations or restrictions listed in this section, according to WAC 182-501-0169; and
 - (b) That are listed as noncovered according to WAC 182-501-0160.
- (9) The agency reviews requests for orthodontic treatment or orthodontic-related services for clients who are eligible for services under the EPSDT program according to the provisions of WAC 182-534-0100.