

Suicide Assessment, Treatment, and Management Training

Frequently Asked Questions

The Medical Quality Assurance Commission (Commission) is currently in the rulemaking process to adhere to the requirements set out in Revised Code of Washington [\(RCW\) 43.70.442\(5\)\(a\)](#). The Commission is the disciplining authority for allopathic physicians and allopathic physician assistants and as such the following information applies only to those credentials. Until our rulemaking is complete we provide the following frequently asked questions:

How many hours of training am I required to take?

According to RCW 43.70.442(5)(c) you must take a one-time six hours of suicide assessment, treatment, and management training.

When do I have to take the training?

The training must be taken by the end of the first full CME reporting period after January 1, 2016 or during the first full CME reporting period after initial licensure, whichever is later. For example, if an MD's reporting period expires in 2016 he/she will have until their birthday in 2020 to take the training. If a PA's reporting period expires in 2016 he/she will have until their birthday in 2018 to take the training.

Are residents required to take the training?

A resident holding a limited license under [RCW 18.71.095\(3\)](#) is not required to take the training during the time they hold the limited license. However, once they hold a full license they would be required to take the one-time training.

Will my psychiatry residency fulfill the training requirement?

No. Residency training does not fulfill the training requirement, no matter the specialty.

Where can I find a list of trainings?

The Commission maintains a list of approved trainings. Until July 1, 2017, the training does not have to be on the model list, but it must be approved by the Commission. After July 1, 2017,



you must take training listed on the model list in order to satisfy the requirement.

[List of Suicide Assessment, Treatment, and Management Trainings approved by the Commission](#)

What if I've already taken a training?

Training completed between June 12, 2014, and January 1, 2016 that is either on the model list or meets the requirements as determined by RCW 43.70.442(10)(b) will be accepted by the Commission.

Are government employees exempt from the training requirement?

According to RCW 43.70.442(11), a state or local government employee is exempt from the training requirement if he or she receives at least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or her employer. The training may be in one six-hour block or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

Are employees of a community mental health agency exempt from the training requirement?

According to RCW 43.70.442(12), an employee of a community mental health agency licensed under chapter 71.24 RCW or a chemical dependency program certified under chapter 70.96 RCW is exempt if he or she receives at least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or her employer. The training may be in one six-hour block or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

If you have further questions or concerns please contact the Commission's Program Manager, Daidria Underwood, at (360) 236-2727 or daidria.underwood@doh.wa.gov.

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