

## Chapter 246-762 WAC Scoliosis screening — school districts

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### WAC Sections

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#### DISPOSITIONS OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

- 246-762-060 Distribution of rules and procedures. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-060, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-070, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-070, filed 10/31/79.] Repealed by 97-20-100, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.
- 246-762-070 Exemptions from examinations -- Screening waivers. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-070, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-080, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-080, filed 10/31/79.] Repealed by 97-20-100, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.

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### 246-762-001

#### What is the purpose of scoliosis screening in public schools?

The purpose of scoliosis screening in public schools is early detection and notification of parents and guardians about the condition and the need for referral for early diagnosis and possible treatment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-001, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-001, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-010, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-010, filed 10/31/79.]

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### 246-762-010

#### What words and terms are defined for this chapter?

(1) "Proper training" means instruction and training appropriate for persons who perform scoliosis screening procedures. Proper training is provided by, or under the supervision of, a physician licensed under chapters 18.57 or 18.71 RCW, or a registered nurse licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW who has had specialty training in scoliosis detection.

(2) "Public schools" means common schools referred to in Article IX of the state Constitution and those schools and institutions of learning having a curriculum below the college or university level established by law and maintained at public expense.

(3) "Qualified licensed health practitioners" means physicians licensed under chapters 18.57 and 18.71 RCW, registered nurses licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW, and physical therapists licensed under chapter 18.74 RCW, practicing within the scope of their field as defined by the appropriate regulatory authority.

(4) "Scoliosis" includes idiopathic scoliosis and kyphosis. "Idiopathic" means "of unknown origin." "Scoliosis" means "an appreciable lateral deviation in the normally straight vertical line of the spine as viewed from the back." "Kyphosis" means "an abnormally increased convexity in the curvature of the thoracic spine as viewed from the side."

(5) "Screening" means a procedure performed for the purpose of detecting the possible presence of scoliosis, except as provided for in WAC [246-762-070](#).

(6) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of public instruction under Article III of the state Constitution or his or her designee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-010, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220. 92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-010, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-010, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-020, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-020, filed 10/31/79.]

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### **246-762-020**

#### **When are students screened for scoliosis?**

Each public school shall annually screen all students in grades five, seven, and nine except students with a valid written exemption request from a parent or guardian. Valid exemption requests must certify scoliosis screening conflicts with philosophical or religious beliefs or the student is under the care of a health care provider for spinal curvature or a related medical condition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-020, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220. 92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-020, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-020, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-030, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-030, filed 10/31/79.]

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### **246-762-030**

#### **What are the qualifications for persons who do screening?**

- (1) Persons who screen for scoliosis must be school physicians, school nurses, qualified licensed health practitioners, physical education instructors, other school personnel, or other persons designated by school authorities who have received proper training.
- (2) Each school district shall designate one individual of the district's staff who is responsible for the administration of scoliosis screening. This individual's training and experience must be appropriate to perform the following tasks:
- (a) Develop an administrative plan for conducting scoliosis screening in the district in cooperation with the appropriate school personnel. The plan must ensure the program can be carried out efficiently with minimum disruption, and include arrangement of appropriate scheduling for scoliosis screenings;
  - (b) Secure appropriate personnel with proper training to carry out the screening program;
  - (c) Ensure accurate and appropriate recordkeeping, make recommendations appropriate to the needs of each student whose screening test is indicative of possible scoliosis, and provide copies of these records to parents or legal guardians of each student; and
  - (d) Disseminate information to other school personnel to explain the purpose of the program, and to inform them of the criteria which might indicate the need for referral for scoliosis screening; and
  - (e) To institute a procedure to evaluate the effectiveness and accuracy of the screening program.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-030, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-030, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-040, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-040, filed 10/31/79.]

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### **246-762-040**

#### **What are the medical standards for screening?**

The screening procedures must be consistent with nationally accepted standards for scoliosis screening and published by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons as contained in *Screening Procedure Guidelines for Spinal Deformity*. These guidelines may be obtained from the Scoliosis Research Society.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-040, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220.]

92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-040, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-040, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-050, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-050, filed 10/31/79.]

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## **246-762-050**

### **What happens to screening results?**

The school shall create a record of screening results for each student suspected of having scoliosis, and shall notify the parent or legal guardian of the student. The notification must include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating scoliosis at an early stage, the services generally available from a qualified licensed health practitioner for treatment after diagnosis, and a method for the school to receive follow-up information from health care providers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-050, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-050, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-060, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-15-060 (codified as WAC 248-150-060), filed 10/31/79.]