RULE-MAKING ORDER

Agency: Department of Health- Board of Psychology

Effective date of rule:
Permanent Rules
☐ 31 days after filing.
☒ Other (specify) 01/01/2014 (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?
☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes, explain: Beginning January 1, 2014, RCW 43.70.422 requires licensed psychologists to complete training programs that are adopted in these rules.

Purpose: WAC 246-924-230 and 246-924-240 (amended), and new WAC 246-924-255. The rules implement chapter 181, Laws of 2012 (ESHB 2366) and chapter 78, Laws of 2013 (SHB 1376), codified as RCW 43.70.422. The rules create new continuing education requirements for psychologists in suicide assessment, treatment and management, and clarify topics that must be included in approved courses.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:
Repealed: None
Amended: WAC 246-924-230, WAC 246-924-240
Suspended: None

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 43.70.442 (7), RCW 18.83.090

Other authority: ESHB 2366 (Chapter 181, Laws of 2012, SHB 1376 (Chapter 78, Laws of 2013)

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)
Adopted under notice filed as WSR 13-18-082 on 09/04/2013 (date).
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: Only editorial changes were made.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:
Name: Betty Moe
Address: Department of Health
PO Box 47852
Olympia, WA 98504
phone 360.236.4912
fax 360.236.2901
e-mail Betty.Moe@doh.wa.gov

Date adopted: 11/15/2013

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: December 16, 2013
TIME: 9:36 AM
WSR 14-01-071

(COMplete REVERSE SIDE)
Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero. No descriptive text.

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note. A section may be counted in more than one category.

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

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<th>Repealed</th>
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<td>Federal rules or standards</td>
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<td>Recently enacted state statutes</td>
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The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

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The number of sections adopted in the agency’s own initiative:

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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

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The number of sections adopted using:

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WAC 246-924-230  Continuing education requirements.  (1) (The Washington state board of psychology (hereafter referred to as the board) requires)) To renew a license, a licensed psychologist must complete a minimum of sixty hours of continuing education ((hereafter referred to as)) (CE) every three years((.)):

((2)) (a) A minimum of four hours ((credit in ethics)) must be ((included in the sixty hours required)) in ethics. Areas to be covered, depending on the licensee's primary area(s) of function are practice, consultation, research, teaching, ((and/or)) or supervision.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2014, once every six years, a minimum of six hours must be training covering suicide assessment, treatment, and management as specified in WAC 246-924-255. These hours count toward the total sixty hours of CE.

(i) Except as provided in (b)(ii)(A) and (B) of this subsection, the training must be completed during the first full CE reporting period after January 1, 2014, or the first full CE period after initial licensure, whichever occurs later.

(ii) A psychologist applying for initial licensure on or after January 1, 2014, may delay completion of the first training for six years after initial licensure, if he or she can demonstrate successful completion of six-hour training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management that:

(A) Was completed no more than six years prior to the application for initial licensure; and

(B) Meets the qualifications listed in WAC 246-924-255(1).

((3)) (2) Faculty providing CE offerings shall meet the training and the full qualifications of their respective professions. All faculty shall have demonstrated an expertise in the areas in which they are instructing.

((4)) (3) The Washington state examining board ((reserves the right to)) of psychology may require any licensee to submit ((evidence, e.g., course or program certificate of training, transcript, course or workshop brochure description, evidence of attendance, etc., in addition to the affidavit form in order)) documentation to demonstrate compliance with the sixty hours of CE ((requirement)).
Recognized activities shall include:

4) Courses, seminars, workshops, and postdoctoral institutes offered or sponsored by the following qualify for CE credit for a licensed psychologist:

a) Educational institutions chartered by a state and recognized (accredited) by a regional association of schools, colleges and universities as providing graduate level course offerings. Such educational activities shall be documented on an official transcript or certificate of completion.

b) The American Psychological Association;

c) Regional or state psychological associations or their subchapters;

d) Psychology internship training centers;

e) Other professionally or scientifically recognized behavioral science organizations; and

f) The Washington state examining board of psychology.

5) A licensed psychologist may earn credit toward the CE requirement through teaching an approved CE program. The CE credit earned may not exceed thirty hours every three years. Credit for teaching an approved CE program may be earned on the following basis:

a) One credit hour for each sixty minutes actually spent teaching the program for the first event. Credit may be conferred for teaching similar subject matter only if the psychologist has actually spent an equal or greater amount of preparation time updating the subject matter to be taught on a later occasion.

b) One credit hour for each sixty minutes actually spent participating in a panel presentation.

6) A licensed psychologist may earn CE credit by attending an approved training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management.

NEW SECTION

WAC 246-924-255 Suicide training standards. (1) An approved training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management must:

(a) Be approved by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, American Psychological Association, American Medical Association, regional or state psychological associations or their subchapters, psychology internship training centers, or an equivalent organization, educational institution or association which approves training based on observation and experiment or best available practices.

(b) Cover training in suicide assessment, including screening and referral, suicide treatment, and suicide management.

(c) Be provided by a single provider and must be at least six hours in length, which may be provided in one or more sessions.

(2) A licensed psychologist who is a state or local government employee is exempt from the requirements of this section if he or she receives a total of at least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or her employer every six years. For purposes of this subsection, the training may be provided
in one six-hour block or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

(3) A licensed psychologist who is an employee of a community mental health agency licensed under chapter 71.24 RCW or a chemical dependency program certified under chapter 70.96A RCW is exempt from the requirements of this section if he or she receives a total of at least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or her employer every six years. For purposes of this subsection, the training may be provided in one six-hour block or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

(4) A licensed psychologist who obtained training under subsection (2) or (3) of this section may obtain continuing education credit for that training subject to documentation as defined in WAC 246-924-300.