

Public Notification and Meeting Announcement  
For Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for  
Ground Ambulance Services  
CR-101 for WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270

## **Rulemaking**

The Department of Health's Office of Community Health Systems officially filed CR-101 with the Office of the Code Reviser on **March 19, 2025**, to open WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270 Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Care. **The WSR number is 25-08-002.**

The Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for Ground Ambulance Services rules establish requirements to comply with and enforce balance billing for ground ambulance services.

The Department of Health (department) is conducting rulemaking in response to new legislative requirements under Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5986 (chapter 218, Laws of 2024) regarding Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services. The department is proposing amending sections in WAC 246-976-260 – Licenses required & WAC 246-976-270 – Denial, suspension, revocation.

To receive notifications for rules meetings please subscribe to the [Out-of-Network Health Care Charges \(balance billing\) for Ground Ambulance Services Rule Making GovDelivery account](#):

## **EMS Rules for Stakeholder Meetings**

In response to the CR-101 filing, the department has scheduled stakeholder meetings and invites EMS & Trauma committee members and members of the public to discuss amendments.

All scheduled stakeholder meetings are open public meetings. The meeting schedule is posted and regularly updated on the [EMS Rules Development web page](#).

Rulemaking meetings will be held virtually through the Department using Microsoft Teams.

The kickoff meeting for stakeholder participation in drafting amendments to rules is scheduled for **April 28, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.** [Join the meeting now](#) WAC 246-976-260 licenses required & WAC 246-976-270 denial, suspension, revocation.

**\*Please note the updated date and time.**

Web conferencing information will be sent out via GovDelivery and is also posted on the [EMS Rules Development web page](#).

## **Public Comment**

If you choose, please submit any comment(s) prior to a scheduled meeting, using the department-provided comment form (Word) at the end of this announcement.

You may also submit a comment form if you're unable to attend a meeting but have a concern that you'd like to discuss in the meeting. Your cooperation will help ensure that all comments are taken into consideration when the final draft rules are adopted.

If you are unable to attend a meeting or choose to submit a comment prior to a scheduled meeting, please fill out the comment form and email the completed form to [HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov).

For more information, please contact [HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov).

# Comment Form

Thank you for taking the time to comment on the WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270 Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services draft rules. Please submit any comment(s) you have as soon as possible, prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a separate form for each criteria that you would like to comment on.

Comment submitted by:

Name:

Title:

Phone/email:

Criteria commented on:

WAC # referenced in criteria:

Position (support/oppose): Choose an item.

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1. Statement of problem/comment and substantiation:

2. Suggested solution/proposed criteria:

3. Applicable research and/or substantiation of suggested solution/proposed criteria:

4. Benefit of suggested solution/proposed criteria to your service:

5. Benefit of suggested solution/proposed criteria to public:

6. Identified impacts (cost or otherwise) of suggested solution/proposed criteria to your service:

Discussion Notes (DOH staff only):

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