



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF A POLICY STATEMENT

Title of Policy Statement: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training requirements without skills demonstration test for initial and renewing medical marijuana consultant certifications during the COVID-19 Response. Policy Number: PS20-01

Issuing Entity: Department of Health

Subject Matter: Addressing the impact COVID-19 response measures are having on new and renewing certified medical marijuana consultants to obtain an in-person skills demonstration portion of the CPR requirement

Effective Date: April 1, 2020

Contact Person: Shelly Rowden, Program Manager
PO Box 47852
Olympia, WA 98504-7852
360-236-2820
medicalmarijuana@doh.wa.gov

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: September 17, 2020

TIME: 4:04 PM

WSR 20-19-098

Policy Statement

Revised – 10/18/11

<i>Title:</i>	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training requirements without skills demonstration test for initial and renewing medical marijuana consultant certifications during the COVID-19 Response	<i>Number:</i> PS20-01
<i>References:</i>	RCW 69.51A.290 ; WAC 246-72-020 and WAC 246-72-080	
<i>Contact:</i>	Shelly Rowden, Medical Marijuana Program Manager	
<i>Phone:</i>	360-236-2820	
<i>Email:</i>	medicalmarijuana@doh.wa.gov	
<i>Effective Date:</i>	April 1, 2020	
<i>Supersedes:</i>	N/A	
<i>Approved By:</i>		

To address the difficulties related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic that impact certified medical marijuana consultants with regard to obtaining in-person cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training for initial certification, the Department of Health (department) makes the following allowance:

To cover the time period while an emergency rule was being prepared, for initial certification applications and certification renewals received from April 1, 2020 to August 25, 2020 the department intends to exercise discretion in completion of the skills demonstration test as required in WAC 246-72-020(5) and WAC 246-72-080(2) by accepting a CPR certification from any course requiring completion of a written exam, whether or not that course requires an in-person skills demonstration.

On June 1, 2020 the department filed an emergency rule (WSR # 20-12-007) amending WAC 246-72-020 to temporarily suspend the skills demonstration portion of the CPR requirement for certified medical marijuana consultant applications. The emergency rule allows an applicant to move forward in the application process without the need to obtain CPR training from an in-person training course and allows them to continue with licensure and serving the cannabis patient community. In implementing these emergency rules, we encountered unexpected barriers with renewal applications under WAC 246-72-080. As a result, we have filed a second emergency rule, filed under WSR 20-18-027 on August 26, 2020 which amends both WAC 246-72-020 and WAC 246-72-080 and supersedes the previous filing clarifying the suspension of the skills demonstration portion applies to both new and renewing applicants.

Therefore, under the emergency rule, applications received by the department do not require initial or renewing certification applicants to provide proof of CPR certification from a course requiring in-person skills demonstration; instead, the department will accept proof of CPR certification from any online cardio-pulmonary course available that administers a written examination that assesses knowledge of CPR life-saving techniques.

The Governor's Proclamation 20-25 Stay Home-Stay Health was issued on March 23, 2020 and required people to stay home except to conduct essential activities or for employment of essential services. This proclamation has been renewed several times. The department determined it may be challenging to locate a CPR training program that contains both a written exam and in-person skills demonstration. In response, the department filed an emergency rule filed under WSR 20-18-027 suspending the skills demonstration portion of the CPR requirement.

A CPR card remains a requirement to renew or to obtain an initial medical marijuana consultant certification; however, the emergency rule and this policy statement allow a consultant to obtain a CPR card from any online course, as long as that course requires completion of a written exam.

To cover the time period while an emergency rule was being prepared, for initial certification applications and certification renewals received from April 1, 2020 to August 25, 2020 the department intends to exercise discretion in completion of the skills demonstration test as required in WAC 246-72-020(5) and WAC 246-72-080(2) by accepting a CPR certification from any course requiring completion of a written exam, whether or not that course requires an in-person skills demonstration.