



## Medical Quality Assurance Commission

WAC 246-918-076—How to obtain a temporary practice permit—Military spouse

Allopathic Physician Assistants

New Rule Effective October 7, 2017

Following a June 28, 2017 public hearing, the Medical Quality Assurance Commission (commission) adopted a new regulatory section, WAC 246-918-076—*How to obtain a temporary practice permit—Military spouse*, to comply with chapter 18.340 RCW, which allows temporary practice permits to be issued to applicants who are military spouses or state-registered domestic partners, hold out-of-state credentials as allopathic physician assistants (PA), and whose spouses are the subject of a military transfer to Washington state. The law directs disciplining authorities to expedite the issuance of a credential to military spouses or state-registered domestic partners if certain statutory requirements are met. The final rulemaking order was filed with the Code Reviser's Office on September 6, 2017, as WSR #17-18-097. These changes will become effective on October 7, 2017. (See attached CR-103P.)

The purpose of the adopted rule is to minimize the impact of relocation on military families moving to Washington state by reducing the time to obtain professional licenses, and sets forth the criteria and procedure for issuance of a temporary practice permit for applicants meeting the specific criteria under chapter 18.340 RCW. The law requires the commission to authorize temporary practice permits for military spouses or domestic partners who are credentialed and in good standing as an allopathic PA in another state, which has substantially equivalent requirements as Washington. The temporary practice permit will allow applicants to practice in the full scope of their profession for up to 180 days pending issuance of a permanent credential while completing any additional licensure requirements unrelated to the profession's training or practice standards. Included with this notification is the final rulemaking document (CR-103) that was filed with the Code Reviser's Office, which contains the rulemaking order and the new rule text.

This message contains two attachments:

1. The final rulemaking document (CR-103P) that was filed with the Office of the Code Reviser, which contains the rulemaking order.
2. The new rule text.

The laws and procedures for petitioning the amendment or repeal of an adopted rule are under [RCW 34.05.330](#).

For continued updates on rule development, interested parties are encouraged to subscribe to the [commission's Rules email list](#).

For more information, please contact Daidria Underwood, Program Manager, Medical Quality Assurance Commission at (360) 236-2727 or by email at [daidria.underwood@doh.wa.gov](mailto:daidria.underwood@doh.wa.gov).



# RULE-MAKING ORDER

## PERMANENT RULE ONLY

**CR-103P (August 2017)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.360)**

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: September 06, 2017

TIME: 10:00 AM

**WSR 17-18-097**

**Agency:** Department of Health- Medical Quality Assurance Commission

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

- 31 days after filing.  
 Other (specify) **(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:

**Purpose:** WAC 246-918-076 (Allopathic Physician Assistants)--How to obtain a temporary practice permit--military spouse. The Medical Quality Assurance Commission is adopting a new section to provide for temporary practice permits to be issued to military spouses or state-registered domestic partners who hold out-of-state credentials as allopathic physician assistants whose partners are the subject of a military transfer to Washington, and who meet the specific requirements under RCW 18.340.020

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

New: WAC 246-918-076

Repealed: None

Amended: None

Suspended: None

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 18.71A.020 and RCW 18.340.020

**Other authority:**

### PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 17-11-035 on 05/11/2017 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Web site:

Other:

**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:**

Federal statute:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Federal rules or standards:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	<u>1</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:**

	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

Negotiated rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Pilot rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>1</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**Date adopted:** 08/31/2017

**Name:** Melanie de Leon

**Title:** Executive Director

**Signature:**



NEW SECTION

**WAC 246-918-076 How to obtain a temporary practice permit—Military spouse.** A military spouse or state registered domestic partner of a military person may receive a temporary practice permit while completing any specific additional requirements that are not related to training or practice standards for physician assistants.

(1) A temporary practice permit may be issued to an applicant who is a military spouse or state registered domestic partner of a military person and:

(a) Is moving to Washington as a result of the military person's transfer to Washington;

(b) Left employment in another state to accompany the military person to Washington;

(c) Holds an unrestricted, active license in another state that has substantially equivalent licensing standards for a physician assistant to those in Washington; and

(d) Is not subject to any pending investigation, charges, or disciplinary action by the regulatory body of the other state or states.

(2) A temporary practice permit grants the individual the full scope of practice for the physician assistant.

(3) A temporary practice permit expires when any one of the following occurs:

(a) The license is granted;

(b) A notice of decision on the application is mailed to the applicant, unless the notice of decision on the application specifically extends the duration of the temporary practice permit; or

(c) One hundred eighty days after the temporary practice permit is issued.

(4) To receive a temporary practice permit, the applicant must:

(a) Submit to the commission the necessary application, fee(s), fingerprint card if required, and documentation for the license;

(b) Attest on the application that the applicant left employment in another state to accompany the military person;

(c) Meet all requirements and qualifications for the license that are specific to the training, education, and practice standards for physician assistants;

(d) Provide verification of having an active unrestricted license in the same profession from another state that has substantially equivalent licensing standards as a physician assistant in Washington;

(e) Submit a copy of the military person's orders and a copy of:

(i) The military-issued identification card showing the military person's information and the applicant's relationship to the military person;

(ii) A marriage license; or

(iii) A state registered domestic partnership; and

(f) Submit a written request for a temporary practice permit.

(5) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Military spouse" means the husband, wife, or registered domestic partner of a military person.

(b) "Military person" means a person serving in the United States armed forces, the United States public health service commissioned corps, or the merchant marine of the United States.