

Group Care NRM Q&A

7/18/2023 (Zoom Orientation)

Q: Is there transportation funding for school stability? Just trying to navigate the tens of thousands of dollars we lost in the previous year transporting youth to and from school of origin.

A: Child welfare has a workgroup that's addressing how we can come up with transportation resources, so we'll have more information to share soon.

Q: What is the NRM email address to use for future questions?

A: The email inbox is: dcyf.groupcarenrm@dcyf.wa.gov.

Q: Can there be more than one staff per agency in the distribution list?

A: We have about eight participant groupings identified and you can include as many people as you want in the email lists. From that group, each group will pick two reps to move forward and we'll meet with them on a monthly basis, plus they'll be at the in-person meetings in January. Participants can also update their emails through their RLs.

Q: Will this training be reviewed by the lived experience experts you previously mentioned?

A: The training development is a collaborative process with the Alliance to meet D.S. requirements that will include group care providers and lived experience youth.

Q: Can you share a link to the Alliance website with these trainings? Thank you for developing this new course!

A: Yes, here is the link: <https://risewiththealliance.org/>. The plan is to create e-learnings to best meet timeframes and accessibility for group care staff.

Q: If we have these areas already covered and approved in our current orientation, are we able to continue with that?

A: No. The current plan is to develop a training that's approved by the D.S. Settlement agreement. You would have to adjust your current training plans to accommodate this training.

Q: Are there knowledge checks to ensure people are retaining information?

A: Yes we want to include knowledge checks.



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Q: Is this something that could be completed while new hires are waiting for background checks? Or does it need to be included in the 16-hours on-site/new hire training?

A: We're working with the Alliance on this and will plan to come back with an answer to this question in the near future.

Q: Is the 6 hours just for trauma informed? How many hours are the other 2 topics?

A: The goal is to package all of the trainings within this 6-hour timeframe.

Q: Will the accreditation training requirements be considered?

A: You will get credit for any trainings you take through the Alliance. As the training is developed we'll make sure we share it to make sure it meets standards.

Q: Will this come with a certificate at the end to place in the employee's file?

A: Yes, we'll make sure it does come with a certificate.

Q: Will a certificate be required or will a different sign off sheet with all additional trainings suffice?

A: We don't have all of the answers yet, but we'll tease this out. As the WACs change, so will our process for meeting the WACs. We also need to factor in how we align all of these processes with WA CAP.

Q: If we fit in two groupings, will we participate in both groups?

A: Yes, you can participate in both groups.

5/24/2023 (Provider Meeting)

Q: What is DS?

A: [D.S. Lawsuit Settlement](#)

Q: What does NRM stand for?

A: Negotiated Rule Making. It is a process of working collaboratively with stakeholders to re-write Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

Q: What is NRM?

A: Negotiated Rule Making is a process by which parties impacted by a rule (WAC) seek to reach consensus on the terms of the rule. RCW 34.05.310(2)(a)

Q: What does DS stand for?

A: DS stands for the initials of one of the youth associated with a law suit filed January 2021 in federal court on behalf of hundreds of children in the Washington state's foster care system.

Q: How can we get contact information to connect with other providers in our grouping?

A: A NRM stakeholder groupings list will be created and made available to all group care providers.

Q: Have you given thoughts on how new contract/rule requirements may contradict our accreditation requirements?

A: Yes, one of the outcomes associated with NRM is to reduce undue burden to providers. NRM is in the process of being designed with stakeholders to identify areas such as this that need research and consideration as we move forward with amending rules.

Q: How do we sign up to participate?

A: Stakeholder groupings will be responsible for organizing and developing a plan for NRM engagement. Additional individual engagement opportunities will be provided as rules get developed and submitted for comment.

Q: How will I know what's going on with NRM?

A: A communication plan is being developed that will include creating a web page, routine gov delivery emails, monthly meetings, and update emails from your licensor.

Q: Can we get access to the DS Settlement to review it?

A: Yes, a link has been provided in this Q&A document.

Q: Can the PowerPoint slides be shared?

A: Yes, they will be sent out.

Q: This is scary and overwhelming with lots of concerns of how the changes will be implemented. How can providers be involved in the rule making? Can we put our names in? Are all welcome or will you choose?

A: There have currently been 19 stakeholder groupings identified; these have not been finalized and feedback will be necessary to ensure all parties impacted by the rules have been identified. DCYF will not be selecting individual participants, but will rely on each grouping to develop their own individual system for larger group participation and identify 2 representatives, along with one back-up, to participate in the in-person negotiation phase. Individual participation outside your grouping will also be available as updated rule language is posted for comment.

Q: Can we have a representative from each accrediting body since providers have to meet those requirements as well?

A: We will add this group to the groupings list.

Q: Will the WACs separate further for group care, such as Group care, staffed residential?

A: This has not yet been determined.

Q: What is Adolescent Transition Living Program (ATLP) and how can I get more information?

A: ATLP is supported statewide housing for young people ages 16 – 20 years who prefer to live independently. Greg Williams is the DCYF identified lead for this system improvement. You may also reach out to Joe Rissone from an LD perspective and/or Kris Sanborn from the YMCA for a provider perspective (ksanborn@seattleyymca.org).

Q: What is the time frame for NRM to be completed and changes to be implemented?

A: Currently, the plan is to come to consensus on rules by June 30, 2024 and finalize rules by September 30, 2024. There is also a plan to develop WAC application training that will be delivered to both LD staff and provider staff with a full compliance date of October 1, 2025 for amended WAC rules.

Q: Can you explain the time commitment it would take so folks are informed?

A: We are targeting six, monthly in person sessions with a full day Saturday and half day Sunday; these sessions will rotate around the state. Zoom meetings will also occur on an as needed basis to ensure the process remains on schedule. Additionally, stakeholder groupings will establish their own meeting/communication schedules separately.