(1) Each nursing facility's medicaid payment rate for services provided to medical care recipients will be determined, adjusted, and updated prospectively as provided in this chapter and in chapter 74.46 RCW. The department will calculate any limit, median, or both only when it rebases each nursing facility's July 1st medicaid payment rate in accordance with chapter 74.46 RCW and this chapter.

(2) If the contractor participated in the program for less than six months of the prior calendar year, its rates will be determined by procedures set forth in WAC 388-96-710.

(3) Contractors that submit correct and complete cost reports by March 31st, must be notified of their rates by July 1st, unless circumstances beyond the control of the department interfere.

(4) In setting rates, the department will use the greater of actual days from the cost report period on which the rate is based or days calculated at minimum occupancy pursuant to chapter 74.46 RCW.