

**WAC 246-337-025 Exemptions or alternative means and methods of compliance.** (1) An applicant or licensee may request an exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance from any part of this chapter by submitting a written request to the department that includes:

(a) The specific section, or sections, of rules for which the exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance is requested;

(b) An explanation of the circumstances involved;

(c) A proposed alternative that would ensure the safety and health of residents meeting the intent of the rule; and

(d) Any supporting research or other documentation.

(2) After review and consideration, the department may grant the request if the exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance does not:

(a) Negate the purpose and intent of these rules;

(b) Place the safety or health of the residents in the RTF in jeopardy;

(c) Reduce any fire and life safety or infection control laws or rules; or

(d) Adversely affect the structural integrity of a facility.

(3) The department will send a copy of the exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance decision to the licensee, and shall maintain the exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance as part of the current RTF file. The licensee shall maintain the documented exemption or alternative means or methods of compliance decision on file in the RTF.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 71.12.670. WSR 18-06-092, § 246-337-025, filed 3/6/18, effective 4/16/18. Statutory Authority: Chapter 71.12 RCW. WSR 05-15-157, § 246-337-025, filed 7/20/05, effective 8/20/05.]