

# Title 71A

## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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### Chapter 71A.10 GENERAL PROVISIONS

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**71A.10.010 Legislative finding—Intent—1988 c 176.** The legislature finds that the statutory authority for the programs, policies, and services of the department of social and health services for persons with developmental disabilities often lack[s] clarity and contain[s] internal inconsistencies. In addition, existing authority is in several chapters of the code and frequently contains obsolete language not reflecting current use. The legislature declares that it is in the public interest to unify and update statutes for programs, policies, and services provided to persons with developmental disabilities.

The legislature intends to recodify the authority for the programs, policies, and services for persons with developmental disabilities. This recodification is not intended to affect existing programs, policies, and services, nor to establish any new program, policies, or services not otherwise authorized before June 9, 1988. The legislature intends to provide only those services authorized under state law before June 9, 1988, and only to the extent funds are provided by the legislature. [1988 c 176 § 1.]

**71A.10.015 Declaration of policy.** The legislature recognizes the capacity of all persons, including those with developmental disabilities, to be personally and socially productive. The legislature further recognizes the

state's obligation to provide aid to persons with developmental disabilities through a uniform, coordinated system of services to enable them to achieve a greater measure of independence and fulfillment and to enjoy all rights and privileges under the Constitution and laws of the United States and the state of Washington. [1988 c 176 § 101.]

**71A.10.020 Definitions.** As used in this title, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Department" means the department of social and health services.

(2) "Developmental disability" means a disability attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or another neurological or other condition of an individual found by the secretary to be closely related to mental retardation or to require treatment similar to that required for individuals with mental retardation, which disability originates before the individual attains age eighteen, which has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and which constitutes a substantial handicap to the individual. By January 1, 1989, the department shall promulgate rules which define neurological or other conditions in a way that is not limited to intelligence quotient scores as the sole determinate [determinant] of these conditions, and notify the legislature of this action.

(3) "Eligible person" means a person who has been found by the secretary under RCW 71A.16.040 to be eligible for services.

(4) "Habilitation services" means those services provided by program personnel to assist persons in acquiring and maintaining life skills and to raise their levels of physical, mental, social, and vocational functioning. Habilitation services include education, training for employment, and therapy.

(5) "Legal representative" means a parent of a person who is under eighteen years of age, a person's legal guardian, a person's limited guardian when the subject matter is within the scope of the limited guardianship, a person's attorney at law, a person's attorney in fact, or any other person who is authorized by law to act for another person.

(6) "Notice" or "notification" of an action of the secretary means notice in compliance with RCW 71A.10.060.

(7) "Residential habilitation center" means a state-operated facility for persons with developmental disabilities governed by chapter 71A.20 RCW.

(8) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services or the secretary's designee.



(9) "Service" or "services" means services provided by state or local government to carry out this title. [1988 c 176 § 102.]

**71A.10.030 Civil and parental rights not affected.** (1) The existence of developmental disabilities does not affect the civil rights of the person with the developmental disability except as otherwise provided by law.

(2) The secretary's determination under RCW 71A.16.040 that a person is eligible for services under this title shall not deprive the person of any civil rights or privileges. The secretary's determination alone shall not constitute cause to declare the person to be legally incompetent.

(3) This title shall not be construed to deprive the parent or parents of any parental rights with relation to a child residing in a residential habilitation center, except as provided in this title for the orderly operation of such residential habilitation centers. [1988 c 176 § 103.]

**71A.10.040 Protection from discrimination.** Persons are protected from discrimination because of a developmental disability as well as other mental or physical handicaps by the law against discrimination, chapter 49.60 RCW, by other state and federal statutes, rules, and regulations, and by local ordinances, when the persons qualify as handicapped under those statutes, rules, regulations, and ordinances. [1988 c 176 § 104.]

**71A.10.050 Appeals—Right to.** (1) An applicant or recipient or former recipient of a developmental disabilities service under this title from the department of social and health services has the right to appeal the following department actions:

(a) A denial of an application for eligibility under RCW 71A.16.040;

(b) An unreasonable delay in acting on an application for eligibility, for a service, or for an alternative service under RCW 71A.18.040;

(c) A denial, reduction, or termination of a service;

(d) A claim that the person owes a debt to the state for an overpayment;

(e) A disagreement with an action of the secretary under RCW 71A.10.060 or 71A.10.070;

(f) A decision to return a resident of an [a] habilitation center to the community; and

(g) A decision to change a person's placement from one category of residential services to a different category of residential services.

The adjudicative proceeding is governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

(2) This subsection applies only to an adjudicative proceeding in which the department action appealed is a decision to return a resident of a habilitation center to the community. The resident or his or her representative may appeal on the basis of whether the specific placement decision is in the best interests of the resident. When the resident or his or her representative files an application for an adjudicative proceeding under this section the department has the burden of proving that

the specific placement decision is in the best interests of the resident.

(3) When the department takes any action described in subsection (1) of this section it shall give notice as provided by RCW 71A.10.060. The notice must include a statement advising the recipient of the right to an adjudicative proceeding and the time limits for filing an application for an adjudicative proceeding. Notice of a decision to return a resident of a habilitation center to the community under RCW 71A.20.080 must also include a statement advising the recipient of the right to file a petition for judicial review of an adverse adjudicative order as provided in chapter 34.05 RCW. [1989 c 175 § 138; 1988 c 176 § 105.]

Effective date—1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.10.060 Notice by secretary.** (1) Whenever this title requires the secretary to give notice, the secretary shall give notice to the person with a developmental disability and, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, to at least one other person. The other person shall be the first person known to the secretary in the following order of priority:

(a) A legal representative of the person with a developmental disability;

(b) A parent of a person with a developmental disability who is eighteen years of age or older;

(c) Other kin of the person with a developmental disability, with preference to persons with the closest kinship;

(d) The Washington protection and advocacy system for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities, appointed in compliance with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6042; or

(e) A person who is not an employee of the department or of a person who contracts with the department under this title who, in the opinion of the secretary, will be concerned with the welfare of the person.

(2) Notice to a person with a developmental disability shall be given in a way that the person is best able to understand. This can include reading or explaining the materials to the person.

(3) A person with a developmental disability may in writing request the secretary to give notice only to that person. The secretary shall comply with that direction unless the secretary denies the request because the person may be at risk of losing rights if the secretary complies with the request. The secretary shall give notice as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section. On filing an application with the secretary within thirty days of receipt of the notice, the person who made the request has the right to an adjudicative proceeding under RCW 71A.10.050 on the secretary's decision.

(4) The giving of notice to a person under this title does not empower the person who is given notice to take any action or give any consent. [1989 c 175 § 139; 1988 c 176 § 106.]

Effective date—1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.10.070 Secretary's duty to consult.** (1) Whenever this title places on the secretary the duty to consult,

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the secretary shall carry out that duty by consulting with the person with a developmental disability and, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, with at least one other person. The other person shall be in order of priority:

(a) A legal representative of the person with a developmental disability;

(b) A parent of a person with a developmental disability who is eighteen years of age or older;

(c) Other kin of the person with a developmental disability, with preference to persons with the closest kinship;

(d) The Washington protection and advocacy system for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities, appointed in compliance with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6042; or

(e) Any other person who is not an employee of the department or of a person who contracts with the department under this title who, in the opinion of the secretary, will be concerned with the welfare of the person.

(2) A person with a developmental disability may in writing request the secretary to consult only with that person. The secretary shall comply with that direction unless the secretary denies the request because the person may be at risk of losing rights if the secretary complies with the request. The secretary shall give notice as provided in RCW 71A.10.060 when a request is denied. On filing an application with the secretary within thirty days of receipt of the notice, the person who made the request has the right to an adjudicative proceeding under RCW 71A.10.050 on the secretary's decision.

(3) Consultation with a person under this section does not authorize the person who is consulted to take any action or give any consent. [1989 c 175 § 140; 1988 c 176 § 107.]

Effective date—1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.10.800 Application of Title 71A RCW to matters pending as of June 9, 1988.** Except as provided in RCW 71A.10.901, this title shall govern:

(1) The continued provision of services to persons with developmental disabilities who are receiving services on June 9, 1988.

(2) The disposition of hearings, lawsuits, or appeals that are pending on June 9, 1988.

(3) All other questions or matters covered by this title, from June 9, 1988. [1988 c 176 § 1008.]

**71A.10.805 Headings in Title 71A RCW not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section headings used in this title do not constitute any part of the law. [1988 c 176 § 1002.]

**71A.10.900 Severability—1988 c 176.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1988 c 176 § 1003.]

**71A.10.901 Saving—1988 c 176.** The repeals made by sections 1005 through 1007, chapter 176, Laws of 1988, shall not be construed as affecting any existing

right, status, or eligibility for services acquired under the provisions of the statutes repealed, nor as affecting the validity of any rule or order promulgated under the prior statutes, nor as affecting the status of any person appointed or employed under the prior statutes. [1988 c 176 § 1004.]

**71A.10.902 Continuation of existing law—1988 c 176.** Insofar as provisions of this title are substantially the same as provisions of the statutes repealed by sections 1005, 1006, and 1007, chapter 176, Laws of 1988, the provisions of this title shall be construed as restatements and continuations of the prior law, and not as new enactments. [1988 c 176 § 1001.]

## Chapter 71A.12 STATE SERVICES

### Sections

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**71A.12.010 State and local program—Coordination—Continuum.** It is declared to be the policy of the state to authorize the secretary to develop and coordinate state services for persons with developmental disabilities; to encourage research and staff training for state and local personnel working with persons with developmental disabilities; and to cooperate with communities to encourage the establishment and development of services to persons with developmental disabilities through locally administered and locally controlled programs.

The complexities of developmental disabilities require the services of many state departments as well as those of the community. Services should be planned and provided as a part of a continuum. A pattern of facilities and services should be established, within appropriations designated for this purpose, which is sufficiently complete to meet the needs of each person with a developmental disability regardless of age or degree of handicap, and at each stage of the person's development. [1988 c 176 § 201.]

**71A.12.020 Objectives of program.** (1) To the extent that state, federal, or other funds designated for services to persons with developmental disabilities are available,

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the secretary shall provide every eligible person with habilitative services suited to the person's needs, regardless of age or degree of developmental disability.

(2) The secretary shall provide persons who receive services with the opportunity for integration with non-handicapped and less handicapped persons to the greatest extent possible.

(3) The secretary shall establish minimum standards for habilitative services. Consumers, advocates, service providers, appropriate professionals, and local government agencies shall be involved in the development of the standards. [1988 c 176 § 202.]

**71A.12.030 General authority of secretary.** The secretary is authorized to provide, or arrange with others to provide, all services and facilities that are necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this title, and to take all actions that are necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this title. The secretary shall adopt rules under the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW, as are appropriate to carry out this title. [1988 c 176 § 203.]

**71A.12.040 Authorized services.** Services that the secretary may provide or arrange with others to provide under this title include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Architectural services;
- (2) Case management services;
- (3) Early childhood intervention;
- (4) Employment services;
- (5) Family counseling;
- (6) Family support;
- (7) Information and referral;
- (8) Health services and equipment;
- (9) Legal services;
- (10) Residential services and support;
- (11) Respite care;
- (12) Therapy services and equipment;
- (13) Transportation services; and
- (14) Vocational services. [1988 c 176 § 204.]

**71A.12.050 Payments for nonresidential services.** The secretary may make payments for nonresidential services which exceed the cost of caring for an average individual at home, and which are reasonably necessary for the care, treatment, maintenance, support, and training of persons with developmental disabilities, upon application pursuant to RCW 71A.18.050. The secretary shall adopt rules determining the extent and type of care and training for which the department will pay all or a portion of the costs. [1988 c 176 § 205.]

**71A.12.060 Payment authorized for residents in community residential programs.** The secretary is authorized to pay for all or a portion of the costs of care, support, and training of residents of a residential habilitation center who are placed in community residential programs under this section and RCW 71A.12.070 and 71A.12.080. [1988 c 176 § 206.]

**71A.12.070 Payments under RCW 71A.12.060 supplemental to payments from other resources—Direct payments.** All payments made by the secretary under RCW 71A.12.060 shall, insofar as reasonably possible, be supplementary to payments to be made for the costs of care, support, and training in a community residential program by the estate of such resident of the residential habilitation center, or from any resource which such resident may have, or become entitled to, from any public, federal, or state agency. Payments by the secretary under this title may, in the secretary's discretion, be paid directly to community residential programs, or to counties having created developmental disability boards under chapter 71A.14 RCW. [1988 c 176 § 207.]

**71A.12.080 Rules.** (1) The secretary shall adopt rules concerning the eligibility of residents of residential habilitation centers for placement in community residential programs under this title; determination of ability of such persons or their estates to pay all or a portion of the cost of care, support, and training; the manner and method of licensing or certification and inspection and approval of such community residential programs for placement under this title; and procedures for the payment of costs of care, maintenance, and training in community residential programs. The rules shall include standards for care, maintenance, and training to be met by such community residential programs.

(2) The secretary shall coordinate state activities and resources relating to placement in community residential programs to help efficiently expend state and local resources and, to the extent designated funds are available, create an effective community residential program. [1988 c 176 § 208.]

**71A.12.090 Eligibility of parent for services.** If a person with developmental disabilities is the parent of a child who is about to be placed for adoption or foster care by the secretary, the parent shall be eligible to receive services in order to promote the integrity of the family unit. [1988 c 176 § 209.]

**71A.12.100 Other services.** Consistent with the general powers of the secretary and whether or not a particular person with a developmental disability is involved, the secretary may:

(1) Provide information to the public on developmental disabilities and available services;

(2) Engage in research concerning developmental disabilities and the habilitation of persons with developmental disabilities, and cooperate with others who do such research;

(3) Provide consultant services to public and private agencies to promote and coordinate services to persons with developmental disabilities;

(4) Provide training for persons in state or local governmental agencies or with private entities who come in contact with persons with developmental disabilities or who have a role in the care or habilitation of persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 210.]



**71A.12.110 Authority to contract for services.** (1) The secretary may enter into agreements with any person, corporation, or governmental entity to pay the contracting party to perform services that the secretary is authorized to provide under this title, except for operation of residential habilitation centers under chapter 71A.20 RCW.

(2) The secretary by contract or by rule may impose standards for services contracted for by the secretary. [1988 c 176 § 211.]

**71A.12.120 Authority to participate in federal programs.** (1) The governor may take whatever action is necessary to enable the state to participate in the manner set forth in this title in any programs provided by any federal law and to designate state agencies authorized to administer within this state the several federal acts providing federal moneys to assist in providing services and training at the state or local level for persons with developmental disabilities and for persons who work with persons with developmental disabilities.

(2) Designated state agencies may apply for and accept and disburse federal grants, matching funds, or other funds or gifts or donations from any source available for use by the state or by local government to provide more adequate services for and habilitation of persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 212.]

**71A.12.130 Gifts—Acceptance, use, record.** The secretary may receive and accept from any person, organization, or estate gifts of money or personal property on behalf of a residential habilitation center, or the residents therein, or on behalf of the entire program for persons with developmental disabilities, or any part of the program, and to use the gifts for the purposes specified by the donor where such use is consistent with law. In the absence of a specified purpose, the secretary shall use such money or personal property for the general benefit of persons with developmental disabilities. The secretary shall keep an accurate record of the amount or kind of gift, the date received, manner expended, and the name and address of the donor. Any increase resulting from such gift may be used for the same purpose as the original gift. [1988 c 176 § 213.]

**71A.12.140 Duties of state agencies generally.** Each state agency that administers federal or state funds for services to persons with developmental disabilities, or for research or staff training in the field of developmental disabilities, shall:

(1) Investigate and determine the nature and extent of services within its legal authority that are presently available to persons with developmental disabilities in this state;

(2) Develop and prepare any state plan or application which may be necessary to establish the eligibility of the state or any community to participate in any program established by the federal government relating to persons with developmental disabilities;

(3) Cooperate with other state agencies providing services to persons with developmental disabilities to determine the availability of services and facilities within the state, and to coordinate state and local services in order to maximize services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families;

(4) Review and approve any proposed plans that local governments are required to submit for the expenditure of funds by local governments for services to persons with developmental disabilities; and

(5) Provide consultant and staff training for state and local personnel working in the field of developmental disability. [1988 c 176 § 214.]

**71A.12.150 Contracts with United States and other states for developmental disability services.** The secretary shall have the authority, in the name of the state, to enter into contracts with any duly authorized representative of the United States of America, or its territories, or other states for the provision of services under this title at the expense of the United States, its territories, or other states. The contracts may provide for the separate or joint maintenance, care, treatment, training, or education of persons. The contracts shall provide that all payments due to the state of Washington from the United States, its territories, or other states for services rendered under the contracts shall be paid to the department and transmitted to the state treasurer for deposit in the general fund. [1988 c 176 § 215.]

## Chapter 71A.14 LOCAL SERVICES

### Sections

71A.14.010	Coordinated and comprehensive state and local program.
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71A.14.100	Funds from tax levy under RCW 71.20.110.
71A.14.110	Contracts by boundary counties or cities in boundary counties.

**71A.14.010 Coordinated and comprehensive state and local program.** The legislative policy to provide a coordinated and comprehensive state and local program of services for persons with developmental disability is expressed in RCW 71A.12.010. [1988 c 176 § 301.]

**71A.14.020 County developmental disability boards—Composition—Expenses.** (1) The county governing authority of any county may appoint a developmental disability board to plan services for persons with developmental disabilities, to provide directly or indirectly a continuum of care and services to persons with



developmental disabilities within the county or counties served by the community board. The governing authorities of more than one county by joint action may appoint a single developmental disability board. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a county or counties from combining the developmental disability board with another county board, such as a mental health board.

(2) Members appointed to the board shall include but not be limited to representatives of public, private, or voluntary agencies, representatives of local governmental units, and citizens knowledgeable about developmental disabilities or interested in services to persons with developmental disabilities in the community.

(3) The board shall consist of not less than nine nor more than fifteen members.

(4) Members shall be appointed for terms of three years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(5) The members of the developmental disability board shall not be compensated for the performance of their duties as members of the board, but may be paid subsistence rates and mileage in the amounts prescribed by RCW 42.24.090. [1988 c 176 § 302.]

**71A.14.030 County authorities—State fund eligibility—Rules—Application.** Pursuant to RCW 71A.14.040 the secretary shall work with the county governing authorities and developmental disability boards who apply for state funds to coordinate and provide local services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. The secretary is authorized to promulgate rules establishing the eligibility of each county and the developmental disability board for state funds to be used for the work of the board in coordinating and providing services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families. An application for state funds shall be made by the board with the approval of the county governing authority, or by the county governing authority on behalf of the board. [1988 c 176 § 303.]

**71A.14.040 Applications for state funds—Review—Approval—Rules.** The secretary shall review the applications from the county governing authority made under RCW 71A.14.030. The secretary may approve an application if it meets the requirements of this chapter and the rules promulgated by the secretary. The secretary shall promulgate rules to assist in determining the amount of the grant. In promulgating the rules, the secretary shall consider the population of the area served, the needs of the area, and the ability of the community to provide funds for the developmental disability program provided in this title. [1988 c 176 § 304.]

**71A.14.050 Services to community may be required.** The department may require by rule that in order to be eligible for state funds, the county and the developmental disability board shall provide the following indirect services to the community:

(1) Serve as an informational and referral agency within the community for persons with developmental disabilities and their families;

(2) Coordinate all local services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families to insure the maximum utilization of all available services;

(3) Prepare comprehensive plans for present and future development of services and for reasonable progress toward the coordination of all local services to persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 305.]

**71A.14.060 Local authority to provide services.** The secretary by rule may authorize the county and the developmental disability board to provide any service for persons with developmental disabilities that the department is authorized to provide, except for operating residential habilitation centers under chapter 71A.20 RCW. [1988 c 176 § 306.]

**71A.14.070 Confidentiality of information—Oath.** In order for the developmental disability board to plan, coordinate, and provide required services for persons with developmental disabilities, the county governing authority and the board shall be eligible to obtain such confidential information from public or private schools and the department as is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter. Such information shall be kept in accordance with state law and rules promulgated by the secretary under chapter 34.05 RCW to permit the use of the information to coordinate and plan services. All persons permitted to have access to or to use such information shall sign an oath of confidentiality, substantially as follows:

"As a condition of obtaining information from (fill in facility, agency, or person) I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree not to divulge, publish, or otherwise make known to unauthorized persons or the public any information obtained in the course of using such confidential information, where release of such information may possibly make the person who received such services identifiable. I recognize that unauthorized release of confidential information may subject me to civil liability under state law." [1988 c 176 § 307.]

**71A.14.080 Local authority to receive and spend funds.** The county governing authority and the developmental disability board created under RCW 71A.14.020 are authorized to receive and spend funds received from the state under this chapter, or any federal funds received through any state agency, or any gifts or donations received by it for the benefit of persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 308.]

**71A.14.090 Local authority to participate in federal programs.** RCW 71A.12.120 authorizes local governments to participate in federal programs for persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 309.]

**71A.14.100 Funds from tax levy under RCW 71.20.110.** Counties are authorized by RCW 71.20.110 to fund county activities under this chapter. Expenditures



of county funds under this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.40 RCW and other statutes relating to expenditures by counties. [1988 c 176 § 310.]

**71A.14.110 Contracts by boundary counties or cities in boundary counties.** Any county or city within a county either of which is situated on the state boundaries is authorized to contract for developmental disability services with a county situated in either the states of Oregon or Idaho, which county is located on boundaries with the state of Washington. [1988 c 176 § 311.]

## Chapter 71A.16 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES

### Sections

- 71A.16.010 Referral for services.
- 71A.16.020 Eligibility for services—Rules.
- 71A.16.030 Determination of eligibility—Application.
- 71A.16.040 Determination of eligibility—Notice—Rules for redetermination.
- 71A.16.050 Determination of eligibility—Effect—Determination of appropriate services.

**71A.16.010 Referral for services.** It is the intention of the legislature in this chapter to establish a single point of referral for persons with developmental disabilities and their families so that they may have a place of entry and continuing contact for services authorized under this title to persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 401.]

**71A.16.020 Eligibility for services—Rules.** (1) A person is eligible for services under this title if the secretary finds that the person has a developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020(2).

(2) The secretary may adopt rules further defining and implementing the criteria in the definition of "developmental disability" under RCW 71A.10.020(2). [1988 c 176 § 402.]

**71A.16.030 Determination of eligibility—Application.** (1) The secretary shall establish a single procedure for persons to apply for a determination of eligibility for services provided to persons with developmental disabilities.

(2) An application may be submitted by a person with a developmental disability, by the legal representative of a person with a developmental disability, or by any other person who is authorized by rule of the secretary to submit an application. [1988 c 176 § 403.]

**71A.16.040 Determination of eligibility—Notice—Rules for redetermination.** (1) On receipt of an application for services submitted under RCW 71A.16.030, the secretary in a timely manner shall make a written determination as to whether the applicant is eligible for services provided under this title for persons with developmental disabilities.

(2) The secretary shall give notice of the secretary's determination on eligibility to the person who submitted the application and to the applicant, if the applicant is a

person other than the person who submitted the application for services. The notice shall also include a statement advising the recipient of the right to an adjudicative proceeding under RCW 71A.10.050 and the right to judicial review of the secretary's final decision.

(3) The secretary may establish rules for redetermination of eligibility for services under this title. [1989 c 175 § 141; 1988 c 176 § 404.]

Effective date—1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.16.050 Determination of eligibility—Effect—Determination of appropriate services.** The determination made under this chapter is only as to whether a person is eligible for services. After the secretary has determined under this chapter that a person is eligible for services, the secretary shall make a determination as to what services are appropriate for the person. [1988 c 176 § 405.]

## Chapter 71A.18 SERVICE DELIVERY

### Sections

- 71A.18.010 Individual service plans.
- 71A.18.020 When services delivered.
- 71A.18.030 Rejection of service.
- 71A.18.040 Alternative service—Application—Determination—Reauthorization—Notice.
- 71A.18.050 Discontinuance of a service.

**71A.18.010 Individual service plans.** The secretary may produce and maintain an individual service plan for each eligible person. An individual service plan is a plan that identifies the needs of a person for services and determines what services will be in the best interests of the person and will meet the person's needs. [1988 c 176 § 501.]

**71A.18.020 When services delivered.** The secretary may provide a service to a person eligible under this title if funds are available. If there is an individual service plan, the secretary shall consider the need for services as provided in that plan. [1988 c 176 § 601.]

**71A.18.030 Rejection of service.** An eligible person or the person's legal representative may reject an authorized service. Rejection of an authorized service shall not affect the person's eligibility for services and shall not eliminate the person from consideration for other services or for the same service at a different time or under different circumstances. [1988 c 176 § 602.]

**71A.18.040 Alternative service—Application—Determination—Reauthorization—Notice.** (1) A person who is receiving a service under this title or the person's legal representative may request the secretary to authorize a service that is available under this title in place of a service that the person is presently receiving.

(2) The secretary upon receiving a request for change of service shall consult in the manner provided in RCW



71A.10.070 and within ninety days shall determine whether the following criteria are met:

(a) The alternative plan proposes a less dependent program than the person is participating in under current service;

(b) The alternative service is appropriate under the goals and objectives of the person's individual service plan;

(c) The alternative service is not in violation of applicable state and federal law; and

(d) The service can reasonably be made available.

(3) If the requested alternative service meets all of the criteria of subsection (2) of this section, the service shall be authorized as soon as reasonable, but not later than one hundred twenty days after completion of the determination process, unless the secretary determines that:

(a) The alternative plan is more costly than the current plan;

(b) Current appropriations are not sufficient to implement the alternative service without reducing services to existing clients; or

(c) Providing alternative service would take precedence over other priorities for delivery of service.

(4) The secretary shall give notice as provided in RCW 71A.10.060 of the grant of a request for a change of service. The secretary shall give notice as provided in RCW 71A.10.060 of denial of a request for change of service and of the right to an adjudicative proceeding.

(5) When the secretary has changed service from a residential habilitation center to a setting other than a residential habilitation center, the secretary shall reauthorize service at the residential habilitation center if the secretary in reevaluating the needs of the person finds that the person needs service in a residential habilitation center.

(6) If the secretary determines that current appropriations are sufficient to deliver additional services without reducing services to persons who are presently receiving services, the secretary is authorized to give persons notice under RCW 71A.10.060 that they may request the services as new services or as changes of services under this section. [1989 c 175 § 142; 1988 c 176 § 603.]

Effective date—1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.18.050 Discontinuance of a service.** (1) When considering the discontinuance of a service that is being provided to a person, the secretary shall consult as required in RCW 71A.10.070.

(2) The discontinuance of a service under this section does not affect the person's eligibility for services. Other services may be provided or the same service may be restored when it is again available or when it is again needed.

(3) Except when the service is discontinued at the request of the person receiving the service or that person's legal representative, the secretary shall give notice as required in RCW 71A.10.060. [1988 c 176 § 604.]

## Chapter 71A.20

## RESIDENTIAL HABILITATION CENTERS

## Sections

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71A.20.800	Chapter to be liberally construed.

**71A.20.010 Scope of chapter.** This chapter covers the operation of residential habilitation centers. The selection of persons to be served at the centers is governed by chapters 71A.16 and 71A.18 RCW. The purposes of this chapter are: To provide for those children and adults who are exceptional in their needs for care, treatment, and education by reason of developmental disabilities, residential care designed to develop their individual capacities to their optimum; to provide for admittance, withdrawal and discharge from state residential habilitation centers upon application; and to insure a comprehensive program for the education, guidance, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of all persons admitted to residential habilitation centers. [1988 c 176 § 701.]

**71A.20.020 Residential habilitation centers.** The following residential habilitation centers are permanently established to provide services to persons with developmental disabilities: Interlake School, located at Medical Lake, Spokane county; Lakeland Village, located at Medical Lake, Spokane county; Rainier School, located at Buckley, Pierce county; Yakima Valley School, located at Selah, Yakima county; Fircrest School, located at Seattle, King county; and Frances Haddon Morgan Children's Center, located at Bremerton, Kitsap county. [1988 c 176 § 702.]

**71A.20.030 Facilities for Interlake School.** (1) The secretary may use surplus physical facilities at Eastern State Hospital as a residential habilitation center, which shall be known as the "Interlake School."

(2) The secretary may designate and select such buildings and facilities and tracts of land at Eastern State Hospital that are surplus to the needs of the department for mentally ill persons and that are reasonably necessary and adequate for services for persons with developmental disabilities. The secretary shall also designate those buildings, equipment, and facilities which



are to be used jointly and mutually by both Eastern State Hospital and Interlake School. [1988 c 176 § 703.]

**71A.20.040 Use of Harrison Memorial Hospital property.** The secretary may under RCW 72.29.010 use the Harrison Memorial Hospital property at Bremerton, Kitsap county, for services to persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 704.]

**71A.20.050 Superintendents—Secretary's custody of residents.** (1) The secretary shall appoint a superintendent for each residential habilitation center. The superintendent of a residential habilitation center shall have a demonstrated history of knowledge, understanding, and compassion for the needs, treatment, and training of persons with developmental disabilities.

(2) The secretary shall have custody of all residents of the residential habilitation centers and control of the medical, educational, therapeutic, and dietetic treatment of all residents, except that the school district that conducts the program of education provided pursuant to RCW 28A.58.772 through 28A.58.776 shall have control of and joint custody of residents while they are participating in the program. The secretary shall cause surgery to be performed on any resident only upon gaining the consent of a parent, guardian, or limited guardian as authorized, except, if after reasonable effort to locate the parents, guardian, or limited guardian as authorized, and the health of the resident is certified by the attending physician to be jeopardized unless such surgery is performed, the required consent shall not be necessary. [1988 c 176 § 705.]

**71A.20.060 Work programs for residents.** The secretary shall have authority to engage the residents of a residential habilitation center in beneficial work programs, but the secretary shall not engage residents in excessive hours of work or work for disciplinary purposes. [1988 c 176 § 706.]

**71A.20.070 Educational programs.** (1) An educational program shall be created and maintained for each residential habilitation center pursuant to RCW 28A.58.772 through 28A.58.776. The educational program shall provide a comprehensive program of academic, vocational, recreational, and other educational services best adapted to meet the needs and capabilities of each resident.

(2) The superintendent of public instruction shall assist the secretary in all feasible ways, including financial aid, so that the educational programs maintained within the residential habilitation centers are comparable to the programs advocated by the superintendent of public instruction for children with similar aptitudes in local school districts.

(3) Within available resources, the secretary shall, upon request from a local school district, provide such clinical, counseling, and evaluating services as may assist the local district lacking such professional resources in determining the needs of its exceptional children. [1988 c 176 § 707.]

(1989 Ed.)

**71A.20.080 Return of resident to community—Notice—Adjudicative proceeding—Judicial review—Effect of appeal.** Whenever in the judgment of the secretary, the treatment and training of any resident of a residential habilitation center has progressed to the point that it is deemed advisable to return such resident to the community, the secretary may grant placement on such terms and conditions as the secretary may deem advisable after consultation in the manner provided in RCW 71A.10.070. The secretary shall give written notice of the decision to return a resident to the community as provided in RCW 71A.10.060. The notice must include a statement advising the recipient of the right to an adjudicative proceeding under RCW 71A.10.050 and the time limits for filing an application for an adjudicative proceeding. The notice must also include a statement advising the recipient of the right to judicial review of an adverse adjudicative order as provided in chapter 34.05 RCW.

A placement decision shall not be implemented at any level during any period during which an appeal can be taken or while an appeal is pending and undecided, unless authorized by court order so long as the appeal is being diligently pursued.

The department of social and health services shall periodically evaluate at reasonable intervals the adjustment of the resident to the specific placement to determine whether the resident should be continued in the placement or returned to the institution or given a different placement. [1989 c 175 § 143; 1988 c 176 § 708.]

**Effective date—**1989 c 175: See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**71A.20.090 Secretary to determine capacity of residential quarters.** The secretary shall determine by the application of proper criteria the maximum number of persons to reside in the residential quarters of each residential habilitation center. The secretary in authorizing service at a residential habilitation center shall not exceed the maximum population for the residential habilitation center unless the secretary makes a written finding of reasons for exceeding the rated capacity. [1988 c 176 § 709.]

**71A.20.100 Personal property of resident—Secretary as custodian—Limitations—Judicial proceedings to recover.** The secretary shall serve as custodian without compensation of personal property of a resident of a residential habilitation center that is located at the residential habilitation center, including moneys deposited with the secretary for the benefit of the resident. As custodian, the secretary shall have authority to disburse moneys from the resident's fund for the following purposes and subject to the following limitations:

(1) Subject to specific instructions by a donor of money to the secretary for the benefit of a resident, the secretary may disburse any of the funds belonging to a resident for such personal needs of the resident as the secretary may deem proper and necessary.

(2) The secretary may pay to the department as reimbursement for the costs of care, support, maintenance, treatment, hospitalization, medical care, and habilitation



of a resident from the resident's fund when such fund exceeds a sum as established by rule of the department, to the extent of any notice and finding of financial responsibility served upon the secretary after such findings shall have become final. If the resident does not have a guardian, parent, spouse, or other person acting in a representative capacity, upon whom notice and findings of financial responsibility have been served, then the secretary shall not make payments to the department as provided in this subsection, until a guardian has been appointed by the court, and the time for the appeal of findings of financial responsibility as provided in RCW 43.20B.430 shall not commence to run until the appointment of such guardian and the service upon the guardian of notice and findings of financial responsibility.

(3) When services to a person are changed from a residential center to another setting, the secretary shall deliver to the person, or to the parent, guardian, or agency legally responsible for the person, all or such portion of the funds of which the secretary is custodian as defined in this section, or other property belonging to the person, as the secretary may deem necessary to the person's welfare, and the secretary may deliver to the person such additional property or funds belonging to the person as the secretary may from time to time deem proper, so long as the person continues to receive service under this title. When the resident no longer receives any services under this title, the secretary shall deliver to the person, or to the parent, person, or agency legally responsible for the person, all funds or other property belonging to the person remaining in the secretary's possession as custodian.

(4) All funds held by the secretary as custodian may be deposited in a single fund, the receipts and expenditures from the fund to be accurately accounted for by the secretary. All interest accruing from, or as a result of the deposit of such moneys in a single fund shall be credited to the personal accounts of the residents. All expenditures under this section shall be subject to the duty of accounting provided for in this section.

(5) The appointment of a guardian for the estate of a resident shall terminate the secretary's authority as custodian of any funds of the resident which may be subject to the control of the guardianship, upon receipt by the secretary of a certified copy of letters of guardianship. Upon the guardian's request, the secretary shall immediately forward to the guardian any funds subject to the control of the guardianship or other property of the resident remaining in the secretary's possession, together with a full and final accounting of all receipts and expenditures made.

(6) Upon receipt of a written request from the secretary stating that a designated individual is a resident of the residential habilitation center and that such resident has no legally appointed guardian of his or her estate, any person, bank, corporation, or agency having possession of any money, bank accounts, or choses in action owned by such resident, shall, if the amount does not

exceed two hundred dollars, deliver the same to the secretary as custodian and mail written notice of the delivery to such resident at the residential habilitation center. The receipt by the secretary shall constitute full and complete acquittance for such payment and the person, bank, corporation, or agency making such payment shall not be liable to the resident or his or her legal representative. All funds so received by the secretary shall be duly deposited by the secretary as custodian in the resident's fund to the personal account of the resident. If any proceeding is brought in any court to recover property so delivered, the attorney general shall defend the lawsuit without cost to the person, bank, corporation, or agency that delivered the property to the secretary, and the state shall indemnify such person, bank, corporation, or agency against any judgment rendered as a result of such proceeding. [1988 c 176 § 710.]

**71A.20.110 Clothing for residents—Cost.** When clothing for a resident of a residential habilitation center is not otherwise provided, the secretary shall provide a resident with suitable clothing, the actual cost of which shall be a charge against the parents, guardian, or estate of the resident. If such parent or guardian is unable to provide or pay for the clothing, or the estate of the resident is insufficient to provide or pay for the clothing, the clothing shall be provided by the state. [1988 c 176 § 711.]

**71A.20.120 Financial responsibility.** The subject of financial responsibility for the provision of services to persons in residential habilitation centers is covered by RCW 43.20B.410 through 43.20B.455. [1988 c 176 § 712.]

**71A.20.130 Death of resident, payment of funeral expenses—Limitation.** Upon the death of a resident of a residential habilitation center, the secretary may supplement such funds as were in the resident's account at the time of the person's death to provide funeral and burial expense for the deceased resident. These expenses shall not exceed funeral and burial expenses allowed under RCW 74.08.120. [1988 c 176 § 713.]

**71A.20.140 Resident desiring to leave center—Authority to hold resident limited.** (1) If a resident of a residential habilitation center desires to leave the center and the secretary believes that departures may be harmful to the resident, the secretary may hold the resident at the residential habilitation center for a period not to exceed forty-eight hours in order to consult with the person's legal representative as provided in RCW 71A.10.070 as to the best interests of the resident.

(2) The secretary shall adopt rules to provide for the application of subsection (1) of this section in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of the resident.

(3) Neither the secretary nor any person taking action under this section shall be civilly or criminally liable for performing duties under this section if such duties were performed in good faith and without gross negligence. [1988 c 176 § 714.]



**71A.20.150 Admission to residential habilitation center for observation.** Without committing the department to continued provision of service, the secretary may admit a person eligible for services under this chapter to a residential habilitation center for a period not to exceed thirty days for observation prior to determination of needed services, where such observation is necessary to determine the extent and necessity of services to be provided. [1988 c 176 § 715.]

**71A.20.800 Chapter to be liberally construed.** The provisions of this chapter shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes. [1988 c 176 § 716.]

## Chapter 71A.22

### TRAINING CENTERS AND HOMES

#### Sections

71A.22.010	Contracts for services authorized.
71A.22.020	Definitions.
71A.22.030	Payments by secretary under this chapter supplemental—Limitation.
71A.22.040	Certification of facility as day training center or group training home.
71A.22.050	Services in day training center or group training home—Application for payment.
71A.22.060	Facilities to be nonsectarian.

**71A.22.010 Contracts for services authorized.** The secretary may enter into agreements with any person or with any person, corporation, or association operating a day training center or group training home or a combination day training center and group training home approved by the department, for the payment of all, or a portion, of the cost of the care, treatment, maintenance, support, and training of persons with developmental disabilities. [1988 c 176 § 801.]

**71A.22.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "Day training center" means a facility equipped, supervised, managed, and operated at least three days per week by any person, association, or corporation on a nonprofit basis for the day-care, treatment, training, and maintenance of persons with developmental disabilities, and approved under this chapter and the standards under rules adopted by the secretary.

(2) "Group training home" means a facility equipped, supervised, managed, and operated on a full-time basis by any person, association, or corporation on a nonprofit basis for the full-time care, treatment, training, and maintenance of persons with developmental disabilities, and approved under this chapter and the standards under the rules adopted by the secretary. [1988 c 176 § 802.]

**71A.22.030 Payments by secretary under this chapter supplemental—Limitation.** All payments made by the secretary under this chapter, shall be, insofar as possible, supplementary to payments to be made to a day training center or group training home, or a combination of both, by the persons with developmental disabilities

resident in the home or center. Payments made by the secretary under this chapter shall not exceed actual costs for the care, treatment, support, maintenance, and training of any person with a developmental disability whether at a day training center or group training home or combination of both. [1988 c 176 § 803.]

**71A.22.040 Certification of facility as day training center or group training home.** Any person, corporation, or association may apply to the secretary for approval and certification of the applicant's facility as a day training center or a group training home for persons with developmental disabilities, or a combination of both. The secretary may either grant or deny certification or revoke certification previously granted after investigation of the applicant's facilities, to ascertain whether or not such facilities are adequate for the care, treatment, maintenance, training, and support of persons with developmental disabilities, under standards in rules adopted by the secretary. Day training centers and group training homes must meet local health and safety standards as may be required by local health and fire-safety authorities. [1989 c 329 § 2; 1988 c 176 § 804.]

**71A.22.050 Services in day training center or group training home—Application for payment.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of this title govern applications for payment by the state for services in a day training center or group training home approved by the secretary under this chapter.

(2) In determining eligibility and the amount of payment, the secretary shall make special provision for group training homes where parents are actively involved as a member of the administrative board of the group training home and who may provide for some of the services required by a resident therein. The special provisions shall include establishing eligibility requirements for a person placed in such a group training home to have a parent able and willing to attend administrative board meetings and participate insofar as possible in carrying out special activities deemed by the board to contribute to the well being of the residents.

(3) If the secretary determines that a person is eligible for services in a day training center or group training home, the secretary shall determine the extent and type of services to be provided and the amount that the department will pay, based upon the needs of the person and the ability of the parent or the guardian to pay or contribute to the payment of the monthly cost of the services.

(4) The secretary may, upon application of the person who is receiving services or the person's legal representative, after investigation of the ability or inability of such persons to pay, or without application being made, modify the amount of the monthly payments to be paid by the secretary for services at a day training center or group training home or combination of both. [1988 c 176 § 805.]

**71A.22.060 Facilities to be nonsectarian.** A day training center and a group training home under this



