



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

TERRY BERGESON OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • P0 BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

April 30, 2003

TO: School Nurse Supervisors
ESD School Nurse Corps Supervisors

FROM: Gayle Thronson, R.N. M.Ed., Health Services Program Supervisor

RE: Scoliosis Screening Requirements/Rule Changes to Scoliosis, Auditory and Visual Screening WACs

Scoliosis:

School districts are required by chapter 246-762 WAC to screen for scoliosis and kyphosis yearly in Grades 5, 7, and 9. Refer to Attachment A for an updated copy of chapter 246-762 WAC and Attachment B for RCW 28A.210.180 through 28A.210.250.

The report form (SPI M-873.fm Rev. 4/03) is designed to capture information requested by the State Board of Health. One report form (Attachment C) is enclosed. Please make a copy for each building in your district with Grades 5, 7, and/or 9 for completion by building staff.

Your reports are not due to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) until October 1, 2003. This will allow treatment and follow-up information to be obtained on those students screened and referred late in the 2002—03 school year. This information may not be available until fall 2003 when the student returns to school. It is important that the information sent to OSPI be accurate and complete and that school district staff have a follow-up system in place for securing information on referrals and those in treatment.

Attachment D is a sample parent notification and exemption form that is based on a form developed by the Mercer Island School District. The form notifies parents of the screening, possible exemptions, and appropriate attire for girls. Please feel free to adapt and copy the form for mailing to parents.

Following your 2002—03 screening and follow-up, please complete the report form for each school and forward to me at OSPI, P0 BOX 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200. The report can be submitted as soon as completed if referral follow-up information is available before October 1, 2003. All 2002—03 reports must be received in this office no later than October 1, 2003, to be included in the state report.

Summary of Chapter 246-762 WAC Scoliosis Screening (Attachment A) and Chapter 246-760 WAC Auditory and Visual Standards (Attachment E) Rule Changes:

Review of these rules was undertaken as part of the State Board of Health/Department of Health Rules Review Plans developed under Executive Order 97-02, Regulatory Improvement.

The following changes were adopted effective October 31, 2002:

- WAC 246-762-01 0—What words and terms are defined for this chapter? The definition of scoliosis (4) was revised to include a definition of “kyphosis,” a medical term used in the rules, but previously not defined.
- Other rule changes in chapter 246-762 WAC Scoliosis were limited to housekeeping changes of updating style and language to the currently accepted form for rules.
- WAC 246-760-030—What are the auditory acuity screening standards for screening equipment and procedures? (1) Now reads: “Schools shall use auditory screening equipment providing tonal stimuli at frequencies at one thousand, two thousand, and four thousand herz (Hz) at hearing levels of **twenty decibels (dB), as measured** at the earphones, in reference to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 1996 standards.” Note that twenty dB is the screening level. Previously the standard allowed for screening at twenty-five dB.
- WAC 246-760-040—What are the procedures for auditory acuity screening? (2) (a) now reads: “Present each of the tonal stimuli at a hearing level of twenty dB based on ANSI 1996 standards.” Again, note that twenty dB is the screening level. Previously the standard allowed for screening at twenty-five dB.
- In chapter 246-760-050—What are the auditory acuity screening referral procedures? (1) (a) now reads: “The school must rescreen the child within six weeks.” Note that previously the standard referenced rescreening was three to six weeks.
- Other rule changes in chapter 246-760 WAC—Auditory and Visual Standards were limited to housekeeping changes of updating style and language to the currently accepted form for rules.

If you have any questions you may contact me at 360/753-6040 or TTY 360/664-3631.

BGT:dlv

Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

Chapter 246-762 WAC SCOLIOSIS SCREENING -SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Last Update: 9/30/02

WAC SECTIONS

- 246-762-001 What is the purpose of scoliosis screening in public schools?
246-762-010 What words and terms are defined for this chapter?
246-762-020 When are students screened for scoliosis?
246-762-030 What are the qualifications for persons who do screening?
246-762-040 What are the medical standards for screening?
246-762-050 What happens to screening results?

DISPOSITIONS OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

- 246-762-060 Distribution of rules and procedures. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-060, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-070, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-070, filed 10/31/79.] Repealed by 97-20-100, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.
- 246-762-070 Exemptions from examinations -- Screening waivers. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-070, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-080, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-080, filed 10/31/79.] Repealed by 97-20-100, filed 9/29/97, effective 10/30/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.

WAC 246-762-001 What is the purpose of scoliosis screening in public schools? The purpose of scoliosis screening in public schools is early detection and notification of parents and guardians about the condition and the need for referral for early diagnosis and possible treatment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-001, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-001, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-010, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-010, filed 10/31/79.]

WAC 246-762-010 What words and terms are defined for this chapter? (1) “Proper training” means instruction and training appropriate for persons who perform scoliosis screening procedures. Proper training is provided by, or under the supervision of, a physician licensed under chapters 18.57 or 18.71 RCW, or a registered nurse licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW who has had specialty training in scoliosis detection.

(2) “Public schools” means common schools referred to in Article IX of the state Constitution and those schools and institutions of learning having a curriculum below the college or university level established by law and maintained at public expense.

(3) “Qualified licensed health practitioners” means physicians licensed under chapters 18.57 and 18.71 RCW, registered nurses licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW, and physical therapists licensed under chapter 18.74 RCW, practicing within the scope of their field as defined by the appropriate regulatory authority.

(4) “Scoliosis” includes idiopathic scoliosis and kyphosis. “Idiopathic” means “of unknown origin.” “Scoliosis” means “an appreciable lateral deviation in the normally straight vertical line of the spine

ATTACHMENT A

as viewed from the back.” “Kyphosis” means “an abnormally increased convexity in the curvature of the thoracic spine as viewed from the side.”

(5) “Screening” means a procedure performed for the purpose of detecting the possible presence of scoliosis, except as provided for in WAC 246-762-070.

(6) “Superintendent” means the superintendent of public instruction under Article III of the state Constitution or his or her designee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-010, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220. 92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-010, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-010, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-020, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-020, filed 10/31/79.]

WAC 246-762-020 When are students screened for scoliosis? Each public school shall annually screen all students in grades five, seven, and nine except students with a valid written exemption request from a parent or guardian. Valid exemption requests must certify scoliosis screening conflicts with philosophical or religious beliefs or the student is under the care of a health care provider for spinal curvature or a related medical condition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-020, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220. 92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-020, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-020, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-030, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-030, filed 10/31/79.]

WAC 246-762-030 What are the qualifications for persons who do screening? (1) Persons who screen for scoliosis must be school physicians, school nurses, qualified licensed health practitioners, physical education instructors, other school personnel, or other persons designated by school authorities who have received proper training.

(2) Each school district shall designate one individual of the district’s staff who is responsible for the administration of scoliosis screening. This individual’s training and experience must be appropriate to perform the following tasks:

- (a) Develop an administrative plan for conducting scoliosis screening in the district in cooperation with the appropriate school personnel. The plan must ensure the program can be carried out efficiently with minimum disruption, and include arrangement of appropriate scheduling for scoliosis screenings;
- (b) Secure appropriate personnel with proper training to carry out the screening program;
- (c) Ensure accurate and appropriate recordkeeping, make recommendations appropriate to the needs of each student whose screening test is indicative of possible scoliosis, and provide copies of these records to parents or legal guardians of each student; and
- (d) Disseminate information to other school personnel to explain the purpose of the program, and to inform them of the criteria which might indicate the need for referral for scoliosis screening; and
- (e) To institute a procedure to evaluate the effectiveness and accuracy of the screening program.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-030, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-030, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), §248-150-040, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-040, filed 10/31/79.]

WAC 246-762-040 What are the medical standards for screening? The screening procedures must be consistent with nationally accepted standards for scoliosis screening and published by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons as contained in *Screening Procedure Guidelines for Spinal Deformity*. These guidelines may be obtained from the Scoliosis Research Society.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-040, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200 and [28A.210].220. 92-06-067 (Order 249B), § 246-762-040, filed 3/3/92, effective 4/3/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-040. filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-050, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-150-050, filed 10/31/79.]

WAC 246-762-050 What happens to screening results? The school shall create a record of screening results for each student suspected of having scoliosis, and shall notify the parent or legal guardian of the student. The notification must include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating scoliosis at an early stage, the services generally available from a qualified licensed health practitioner for treatment after diagnosis, and a method for the school to receive follow-up information from health care providers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-076, § 246-762-050, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-762-050, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.134 and 43.20.050. 85-23-029 (Order 294), § 248-150-060, filed 11/14/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 79-11-103 (Order 189), § 248-15-060 (codified as WAG 248-150-060), filed 10/31/79.]

ATTACHMENT B

RCW 28A.210.180

Screening program for scoliosis - Purpose.

The legislature recognizes that the condition known as scoliosis, a lateral curvature of the spine commonly appearing in adolescents, can develop into a permanent, crippling disability if left untreated. Early diagnosis and referral can often result in the successful treatment of this condition and greatly reduce the need for major surgery. Therefore, the purpose of RCW 28A.210.180 through 28A.210.250 is to recognize that a school screening program is an invaluable tool for detecting the number of adolescents with scoliosis. It is the intent of the legislature to insure that the superintendent of public instruction provide and require screening of children for the condition known as scoliosis, to ascertain which, if any, of these children have defects requiring corrective treatment.

[1991 c 86 § 1; 1990 c 33 § 201; 1985 c 216 § 1; 1979 c 47 § 1. Formerly RCW 28A.31.130.]

NOTES:

Severability -1979 c 47: “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.” [1979 c 47 § 8.]

RCW 28A.210.190

Screening program for scoliosis - Definitions.

As used in RCW 28A.210.180 through 28A.210.250, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

(1) “Superintendent” means the superintendent of public instruction of public schools in the state, or the superintendent’s designee.

(2) “Pupil” means a student enrolled in the public school system in the state.

(3) “Scoliosis” includes idiopathic scoliosis and kyphosis.

(4) “Screening” means an examination to be performed for the purpose of detecting the condition known as scoliosis.

(5) “Public schools” means the common schools referred to in Article IX of the state Constitution and those schools and institutions of learning having a curriculum below the college or university level as now or may be established by law and maintained at public expense.

[1991 c 86 § 2; 1990 c 33 § 202; 1985 c 216 § 2; 1979 c 47 § 2. Formerly RCW 28A.31.132.]

NOTES:

Severability -1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

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RCW 28A.210.200

Screening program for scoliosis - Examination of children - Personnel making examinations, training for.

The superintendent shall provide for and require the examination of children attending public schools at least three times between grades four and eleven in accordance with procedures and standards adopted by rule of the state board of health in cooperation with the superintendent of public instruction and the department of health. The examination shall be made by a school physician, school nurse, qualified licensed health practitioner, or physical education instructor or by other school personnel. Proper training of the personnel in the screening process for scoliosis shall be provided by the superintendent.

[1991 c 86 § 3; 1990c33 § 203; 1985 c216 § 3; 1979 c47 § 3. Formerly RCW 28A.31.134.]

NOTES:

Severability -1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

RCW 28A.210.210

Screening program for scoliosis - Records - Parents or guardians notification, contents.

Every person performing the screening under RCW 28A.210.200 shall promptly prepare a record of the screening of each child found to have or suspected of having scoliosis and shall send copies of the records to the parents or guardians of the children. The notification shall include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating it at an early stage, and the services generally available from a qualified licensed health practitioner for the treatment after diagnosis.

[1990 c 33 § 204; 1985 c 216 § 4; 1979 c 47 § 4. Formerly RCW 28A.31.136.]

NOTES:

Severability -1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

RCW 28A.210.220

Screening program for scoliosis - Distribution of rules, records and forms.

The superintendent shall print and distribute to appropriate school officials the rules adopted by the state board of health in cooperation with the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 28A.210.200 and the recommended records and forms to be used in making and reporting the screenings.

[1990 c 33 § 205; 1979 c 47 § 5. Formerly RCW 28A.31.138.]

NOTES:

Severability -1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

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RCW 28A.210.240

Screening program for scoliosis—Pupils exempt, when.

Any pupil shall be exempt from the examination upon written request of his or her parent or guardian if the parent or guardian certifies that:

(1) The screening conflicts with the philosophical or religious beliefs; or

(2) The student is presently under the care of a health care provider for spinal curvature or a related medical condition.

[1985 c 216 § 5; 1979 c 47 § 6. Formerly RCW 28A.31.140.]

NOTES:

Severability—1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

RCW 28A.210.250


Screening program for scoliosis—Sanctions against school officials failing to comply. The superintendent may establish appropriate sanctions to be applied to any school officials of the state failing to comply with RCW 28A.210.200 through 28A.210.240 which sanctions may include withholding of any portion of state aid to the district until such time as compliance is assured.

[1990 c 33 § 207; 1979 c 47 § 7. Formerly RCW 28A.31.142.]

NOTES:

Severability .1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

ATTACHMENT C

	OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION Old Capitol Building P0 BOX 47200 OLYMPIA, WA 98504-7200 (360) 725-6040 TTY(360) 664-3631	ESD	CO	DIST	BLDG
	SCOLIOSIS AND KYPHOSIS SCREENING REPORT School Year 2002—03				

NOTE: Prepare one copy per school. Report is due October 1, 2003, following the screening.

SCHOOL NAME	NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM	DATE
DISTRICT	TITLE	TELEPHONE NUMBER

I. SCOLIOSIS SCREENING RESULTS
 Indicate the total number of students screened in each building. Include the number of re-screened students in this count.

TOTAL SCREENED		
GRADE	Boys	Girls
5		
7		
9		

II. KYPHOSIS SCREENING

	Boys	Girls
Number of new referrals for kyphosis:		
Number in treatment for kyphosis:		

III. NEW REFERRALS New referrals to clinic or primary health care provider for scoliosis. Of total screened (Section I), enter only outcomes* of new referrals in Section III.

NEW REFERRALS														
Grade	A. BRACED		B. SURGERY		C. FOLLOW-UP ONLY		D. NO FOLLOW-UP PRESCRIBED		E. NO REFERRAL FOLLOW-UP INFO REC'D		F. DID NOT TAKE CHILD FOR EVALUATION		TOTAL (should equal A-F)	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5														
7														
9														

* This information is based on physician or parent report.

IV. SCREENER INFORMATION

Who is the primary screener for your school?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURSE | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TEACHER | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SECRETARY | |

RETURN TO:	Health Services Program Supervisor Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Old Capitol Building P.O. Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200
FORM SPI M-873.fm (Rev. 4/03)	

ATTACHMENT D
Scoliosis Screening for Grades 5,7, and 9

Dear Parents:

On _____, your school nurses and trained volunteers will screen children to check for scoliosis. Scoliosis is a side-to-side curve of the spine. The purpose of this screening is to recognize, at the earliest stages, any deviation from normal so that the need for referral for treatment can be determined. Scoliosis screening is required annually by law for school children in the state of Washington in Grades 5, 7, and 9.

The procedure is a very simple one. Boys and girls are screened separately. Each child is given privacy from the other students. Girls are asked to **wear bathing suits or bras which allow clear visualization of their spine** and musculature. The student is asked to remove his/her **shirt**. If scoliosis is suspected, you will be notified so that you can get further evaluation from your own physician.

You may refuse screening for your child by checking one of the exemptions below the signed form directly to the school office. If your child **is absent, refuses or comes unprepared, he/she will not be screened**.

You will not be informed if your child passes the screening or if they are not screened for one of the above reasons. Therefore, it is important that you follow up with your child on the evening of the screening to ascertain if they were screened. If you have any questions or if you wish to schedule a make-up screening day, please contact the school nurse at _____.

Sincerely,

(School Nurse)

Student's Name _____

_____ Please do not screen my child for spinal curvature as it conflicts with my religious or philosophical beliefs.

_____ Please do not screen my child for spinal curvature as he or she is presently under the care of a health care provider for spinal curvature or a related condition.

_____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian

Please return the signed exemption form to:

Form adapted with permission from a form developed by the Mercer Island School District.

ATTACHMENT E

Chapter 246-760 WAC AUDITORY AND VISUAL STANDARDS -• SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Last Update: 9/30/02

WAC SECTIONS

246-760-001 What is the purpose of these rules?

AUDITORY ACUITY STANDARDS

246-760-020 How frequently must schools screen children?

246-760-030 What are the auditory acuity screening standards for screening equipment and procedures?

246-760-040 What are the procedures for auditory acuity screening?

246-760-050 What are the auditory acuity screening referral procedures?

246-760-060 What are the auditory acuity screening qualifications for personnel?

VISUAL ACUITY STANDARDS

246-760-070 What visual acuity screening equipment must be used?

246-760-080 What are the visual acuity screening procedures?

246-760-090 What are the visual acuity screening referral procedures?

246-760-100 What are the qualifications for visual screening personnel?

WAC 246-760-001 What is the purpose of these rules? These rules implement chapter 32, Laws of 1971. Under this chapter, each board of school directors in the state shall provide for and require screening of the auditory and visual acuity of children attending schools in their districts to determine if any children have defects sufficient to retard them in their studies. Each board of school directors shall establish procedures to implement these rules.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-001, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 28A.210.020. 92-02-019 (Order 225B), § 246-760-001, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-001, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 63, § 248-144-010 (codified as WAG 248-148-010), filed 11/1171.]

AUDITORY ACUITY STANDARDS

WAC 246-760-020 How frequently must schools screen children? Schools shall conduct auditory and visual screening of children:

- (1) In kindergarten and grades one, two, three, five, and seven; and
- (2) For any child showing symptoms of possible loss in auditory or visual acuity referred to the district by parents, guardians, or school staff.
- (3) If resources permit, schools shall annually screen children at other grade levels.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-020, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-020, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-021, filed 10/26/87.]

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WAC 246-760-030 What are the auditory acuity screening standards for screening equipment and procedures? (1) Schools shall use auditory screening equipment providing tonal stimuli at frequencies at one thousand, two thousand, and four thousand Hz (Hz) at hearing levels of twenty decibels (dB), as measured at the earphones, in reference to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 1996 standards.

(2) Qualified persons will check the calibration of frequencies and intensity at least every twelve months, at the earphones, using equipment designed for audiometer calibration.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-030, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-030, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-031, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-040 What are the procedures for auditory acuity screening? (1) Schools shall screen all children referenced in WAG 246-760-020 on an individual basis at one thousand, two thousand, and four thousand Hz.

(2) The screener shall:

(a) Present each of the tonal stimuli at a hearing level of twenty dB based on the ANSI 1996 standards;

(b) Conduct screenings in an environment free of extraneous noise;

(c) If at all possible, complete screening within the first semester of each school year;

(d) Place the results of screenings, any referrals, and referral results in each student's health and/or school record; and

(e) Forward the results to the student's new school if the student transfers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-040, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050 and 28A.210.020. 92-02-019 (Order 225B), § 246-760-040, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-040, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-035, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-050 What are the auditory acuity screening referral procedures? (1) If a child does not respond to one or more frequencies in either ear:

(a) The school must rescreen the child within six weeks; and

(b) Notify their teachers of the need for preferential positioning in class because of the possibility of decreased hearing; and

(c) Notify the parents or legal guardian of the need for audiological evaluation if the student fails the second screening.

(2) Schools shall notify parents or legal guardian of the need for medical evaluation if:

(a) Indicated by audiological evaluation; or

(b) Audiological evaluation is not available.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-050, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-050, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-091, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-060 What are the auditory acuity screening qualifications for personnel?

Each school district shall designate a district audiologist or district staff member having:

(1) Responsibility for administering the auditory screening program; and (2) Training and experience to:

ATTACHMENT E

- (a) Develop an administrative plan for conducting auditory screening in cooperation with the appropriate school personnel to ensure the program is carried out efficiently and effectively;
- (b) Obtain the necessary instrumentation for carrying out the screening program, and ensuring the equipment is in proper working order and calibration; and
- (c) Secure appropriate personnel for carrying out the screening program, if assistance is necessary, and for assuring these personnel are sufficiently trained to:
 - (i) Understand the purposes and regulations involved in the auditory screening programs; and
 - (ii) Utilize the screening equipment to ensure maximum accuracy;
- (d) Ensure records are made and distributed as appropriate; and
- (e) Disseminate information to other school personnel familiarizing them with aspects of a child's behavior indicating the need for referral for auditory screening.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-060, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RGW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-060, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-101, filed 10/26/87.]

VISUAL ACUITY STANDARDS

WAC 246-760-070 What visual acuity screening equipment must be used? Personnel conducting the screening must use a Snellen test chart for screening for distance central vision acuity. Either the Snellen E chart or the standard Snellen distance acuity chart may be used as appropriate to the child's age and abilities. The test chart must be properly illuminated and glare free.

Other screening procedures equivalent to the Snellen test may be used only if approved by the state board of health.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-070, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-070, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RGW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-121, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-080 What are the visual acuity screening procedures? (1) Schools shall:

- (a) Screen children with corrective lenses for distance viewing with their corrective lenses on;
- (b) Place the results of screening, any referrals, and referral results in each student's health and/or school record; and
- (c) Forward the results to the student's new school if the student transfers.

(2) If school personnel observe a child with other signs or symptoms related to eye problems and if the signs or symptoms negatively influence the child in his or her studies, school personnel shall refer the child to the parents or guardians for professional care.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-080, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-080, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-123, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-090 What are the visual acuity screening referral procedures? Schools shall rescreen students having a visual acuity of 20/40 or less in either eye as determined by the Snellen test or its approved equivalent within two weeks or as soon as possible after the original screening. Failure is indicated by the inability to identify the majority of letters or symbols on the thirty foot line of the test chart at a distance of twenty feet.

Schools shall inform parents or guardians of students failing the second screening, in writing, of the need and importance for the child to receive professional care.

ATTACHMENT E

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-090, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-090, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.31.030. 87-22-010 (Order 306), § 248-148-131, filed 10/26/87.]

WAC 246-760-100 What are the qualifications for visual screening personnel? (1) Screening must be performed by persons competent to administer screening procedures as a function of their professional training and background or special training and demonstrated competence under supervision.

(2) Technicians and nonprofessional volunteers must have adequate preparation and thorough understanding of the tests as demonstrated by their performance under supervision.

(3) Supervision, training, reporting and referral shall be the responsibility of a professional person specifically designated by the school administration. He or she may be a school nurse or public health nurse, a special educator, teacher or administrator who possesses basic knowledge of the objectives and methods of visual acuity screening, supervisory experience and ability, demonstrated ability to teach others and demonstrated capacity to work well with people.

(4) Screening may not be performed by ophthalmologists, optometrists, or opticians or any individuals who may have a conflict of interest.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.210.200. 02-20-079, § 246-760-100, filed 9/30/02, effective 10/31/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050.91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as § 246-760-100, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91; Order 63, § 248-144-150 (codified as WAG 248-148-150), filed 11/1/71.]