

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

December 20, 2024

ALTSA: #2024-001 CR-101 FILED TO PROPOSE WRITING NEW EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDER CERTIFICATION RULES

Dear Emergency Transitional Support Services Provider:

In June of 2020, during the Public Health Emergency (PHE), Governor Inslee directed the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to open a short-term transitional facility for clients of the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) ready to discharge from acute care settings without an immediate community-based placement available. The Emergency Transitional Support Services (ETSS) model was originally intended to reduce unnecessary exposure of DDA clients to COVID-19 and to make more beds available in acute-care settings. DSHS has since received additional funding for the ETSS model given the identified need for such services beyond the PHE.

DSHS is considering writing new rules on ETSS, which are currently outlined in <u>Chapter 388-829Z of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC)</u>. These new rules will establish a certification process and consider expanding on other topics that are necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare of clients receiving ETSS.

A CR-101 (WSR #25-01-089) was filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on December 13th, 2024, to begin the rulemaking process.

Interested Parties- We want to hear from you!

The Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA) will be hosting three webinars in January of 2025 intended to receive feedback from our community partners on proposed draft rules for ETSS. ALTSA will distribute the draft rules prior to the second meeting for participants to review.

- Meeting 1: Thursday, January 16, 2025, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM <u>Register here</u>. Topic: Discussing the Background, History, and Timeline for ETSS Rule Making
- Meeting 2: Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 3:00 PM-4:30 PM <u>Register here</u>. Topic: Reviewing ETSS Draft Rule Making
- Meeting 3: Thursday, February 6, 2025, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM <u>Register here</u>. Topic: Reviewing ETSS Draft Rule Making

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Please check the ALTSA website often for updated information about the CR-101 filing. If you have any questions, please contact <u>Lindsey Lozoskie</u>, ETSS Policy Project Manager at 564-999-0210.

Thank you for your continued commitment to client health and safety.

Sincerely, What

Amy Abbott, Director Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Partnering with People"