

**EXCEPTION REQUEST
MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL**

Authority: WAC 388-865-0265

Date:

*Please attach supporting documentation to this request at the time of submission.
Documentation may include but is not limited to transcripts, training courses, curriculum vitae
and/or copies of degrees and certificates.*

The Regional Support Network may request an exception of the requirements of a mental health professional for a person with less than a master’s degree level of training. The Mental Health Division may grant an exception of the minimum requirements on a time-limited basis and only with a demonstrated need for an exception as described below.

“Mental Health Professional” (per WAC 388-865-0150) means:

1. A psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse or social worker as defined in Chapters 71.05 and 71.34 RCW;
2. A person with a master’s degree or further advanced degree in counseling or one of the social sciences from an accredited college or university. Such a person shall have, in addition, at least two years of experience in direct treatment of persons with mental illness or emotional disturbance, such experience gained under the supervision of a mental health professional;
3. A person who meets the waiver criteria of RCW 71.24.260, which was granted prior to 1986;
4. A person who had an approved waiver to perform the duties of a mental health professional that was requested by the Regional Support Network and granted by the Mental Health Division prior to July 1, 2001; or
5. A person who has been granted a time-limited exception of the minimum requirements of a mental health professional by the Mental Health Division consistent with WAC 388-865-0265.

Name of Applicant (Person for whom the exception is being requested):

Provider agency with who the above applicant is employed:

Contracted with RSN? YES NO

Functions which the person will be performing:

Statement of need for the exception:

Please attach documentation to verify the following minimum qualifications:

1. Bachelor of Arts or Sciences degree from an accredited college or university.
Degree: Year: Institution:
2. Course work or training in making diagnoses, assessments and developing treatment plans
3. Documentation of at least five years of direct treatment of persons with a mental illness under the supervision of a mental health professional.

Plan of action to assure that this individual will become qualified no later than two years from the date of exception approval.

Statement of support by the Regional Support Network: (Not required if agency is not contracted with the local Regional Support Network).

I assure that periodic supervisory evaluations of this individual's job performance are conducted.

RSN or Provider Representative

Date

NOTES:

1. The RSN or entity may apply for renewal of the exception.
2. The exception may not be transferred to another Regional Support Network or for use by an individual other than the one named in the exception.
3. If compliance with this rule causes a disproportionate economic impact on a small business (per 19.85 RCW), and the business does not contract with a RSN, the small business may request the exception directly from the Mental Health Division.