



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (October 2017)  
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)**

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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FILED

DATE: October 21, 2020

TIME: 11:53 AM

WSR 20-21-112

**Agency:** Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

**Subject of possible rule making:** Chapters 392-401 and 392-401A WAC, statewide definition of absence, excused and unexcused

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 28A.300.046

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** OSPI is initiating permanent rulemaking to make adjustments to the rules regarding absences in a continued effort to support the state and school districts in addressing the challenge of chronic absenteeism, improving learning outcomes and success in school for all students, and supporting the whole child. In addition, because health and safety considerations for staff and students related to the COVID-19 pandemic continue to require many school districts to provide instruction remotely, either completely or partially, OSPI is initiating rulemaking to adjust the statewide definition of absence to reflect districts' ongoing need to provide remote learning for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. OSPI is further considering adjusting the definition of absence to reflect remote learning opportunities in future school years.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:**

**Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):**

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Early solicitation of feedback and recommendations respecting new or amended rules, and consideration of the comments and recommendations in the course of drafting rules. OSPI will follow the process for establishing a definition of student absence from school as prescribed in RCW 28A.300.046(1)(a).


**Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:**

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(If necessary)

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Additional comments:

<b>Date:</b> 10/21/20	<b>Signature:</b> 
<b>Name:</b> Chris Reykdal	
<b>Title:</b> State Superintendent of Public Instruction	