

Comparison of School Health and Safety Rules

Differences between the New and Old Rules

This document briefly summarizes the differences between Chapter 246-366 WAC (the old rule) and Chapter 246-366A (the new rule). The information in the chart below is from the 2009 Preliminary Significant Analysis. The table lists each section of the new rule and briefly describes how it differs from the old rule. Sections that are consistent with *Health and Safety Guide for K-12 Schools in Washington* are marked with an asterisk. These items, though new to the rule have been listed in the Guide, which describes best practices for creating and maintaining safe and healthy schools. The table is color coded:

- Green shading means the old and new rule mostly agree.
- Yellow shading indicates minor changes.
- Blue shading indicates major changes.

All of the changes listed in the chart below were identified in the Preliminary Significant Analysis as potentially having cost implications for schools or health jurisdictions. However, the yellow shaded areas are generally things that are listed as best practices in the Health and Safety Guide or are procedures already in use by jurisdictions with active school programs.

Chapter 246-366A WAC by section and topic	Description of change
WAC 246-366A-001: Intro and Purpose	No significant changes.
WAC 246-366A-005 Applicability	Applies to schools and pre-schools at k-12 facilities
WAC 246-366A-010 Definitions	Some new terms & new definitions.
WAC 246-366A-015 Guidance	K-12 safety guide – more frequent updates
WAC 246-366A-020 Responsibilities–General	School Officials must help identify hazards. School Officials have new notification/communication requirements. Health inspections must be conducted 1x per year
WAC 246-366A-030 Site Assessment	Phase 1 ESA required.* 60 day review time.
WAC 246-366A-040 Construction Review	School districts must consult with health during preliminary planning* 60 day review time
WAC 246-366A-050 Preoccupancy Inspections	New rules add specificity to the administrative requirements
WAC 246-366A-060 General Construction Requirements WAC 246-366A-065 General Operation and Maintenance Requirements	New fall protection requirements* New health room HVAC and supervision/privacy requirements* Requires selection of safer products (chemicals, art supplies)* All hazardous materials must be approved by school* Requires notification of sewage backups to Health district
WAC 246-366A-070 Moisture Control, Mold Prevention and Remediation	New requirements to monitor and remediate moisture intrusion and mold growth.* New notification requirements.
WAC 246-366A-080 Animals in School Facilities	School Officials must develop an Animal Policy
WAC 246-366A-090 HVAC: Construction Requirements WAC 246-366A-095 Operation and Maintenance Requirements	Ducted air returns required – open plenums not allowed. Non-friable material when lining ducts* Exhaust ventilation required for some office equipment*

Chapter 246-366A WAC by section and topic	Description of change
WAC 246-366A-100 & 105 Noise construction and operation	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-110 & 115 Lighting—Construction & Operation	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-120 & 125 Restrooms/Showers—Construction & operation	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-130 Water Quality Monitoring for Lead WAC 246-366A-135 Copper WAC 246-366A-140 Other contaminants	These are completely new sections with new requirements to test fixtures for lead and copper. Testing for other contaminants is required if directed by the local health officer.
WAC 246-366A-150 & 155 Playgrounds—Construction and operation	Possible construction review of playground plans* Install and maintain complaint with ASTM F1487-01* and CPSC Handbook for Public Playground safety, 2008.*
WAC 246-366A-160 & 165 Laboratories and Shops—Construction & operation	Eyewash facilities required* Magnetic switches on shop machinery Prohibit shock sensitive explosives and lethal at low concentration chemicals*
WAC 246-366A-170 Variances	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-175 Temporary Emergency Waivers for Disaster Situations	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-180 Appeals	No significant changes
WAC 246-366A-190 Complaints	Schools are required to have a complaint process with communication and notification requirements.