



# Concise Explanatory Statement

## Public Health Emergencies

### Introduction

Pursuant to RCW 34.05.325(6), the Employment Security Department (Department) hereby provides the Department’s reasons for adopting the rules, a description of the variances between the proposed rules and the adopted rules, and a summary of comments received regarding the proposed rules and responses to the comments.

### Reasons for adopting the rule

Currently, multiple factors for determining a claimant’s eligibility for unemployment benefits are impacted by a declaration of a public health emergency. The Department is adopting rules to clarify whether a claim is covered by a public health emergency declaration when the public health emergency is enacted or lifted during a benefit week.

### Variance between proposed rule and final rule

Proposed WAC 192-170-010(6) has been changed to refer to “RCW 50.20.010(1)(c)” instead of “subsection (1)(c) of this section.” This change is necessary to correct a drafting error, so the subsection refers to the availability requirement more generally as opposed to a narrow piece of the overall availability rule.

### Summary of comments to proposed rules and agency response

No comments were received.