



## INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to RCW 34.05.328, the Employment Security Department hereby analyzes the costs and benefits of amending rules regarding non-union electrical apprentice unemployment benefits. Senate Bill 5398 (Laws of 2019, ch. 50) established different eligibility requirements to receive unemployment insurance benefits for individuals complying with an electrical apprenticeship training program. Rules are necessary to more precisely define what these eligibility requirements are and to specify the particular electrical apprentices to whom these new eligibility requirements apply.

## COSTS

The rule change provides clarity on newly adopted statutes and does not expand benefits. Any new costs associated with increased eligibility can be attributed to the statutory change. There are no additional costs to employers based on the rule change.

The Department anticipates \$72,000 in one-time implementation costs. The estimate includes Information Technology (IT) updates, IT testing, policy and procedure manual updates, and staff training.

## BENEFITS

New eligibility requirements for electrical apprentices allow claimants to remain in apprenticeship programs and increases the likelihood of an apprentice completing the apprenticeship program.

Amending the rules will allow the Department to conform to new statutory requirements.

## CONCLUSION

The benefits for the electrical apprentices are greater than the anticipated implementation costs. The Department must amend the rules in order to comply with the new statute.