



# Preliminary Cost-Benefit Analysis

## Underlying Health Conditions

### Introduction

Pursuant to RCW 34.05.328, the Employment Security Department (Department) hereby analyzes the costs and benefits of adopting rules defining the procedure for verification of underlying health conditions for unemployment claims.

### Costs

#### **COSTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department anticipates a one-time cost of \$80,000 to implement the rules. The costs include Information Technology updates, policy manual updates, and staff training.

#### **COSTS FOR THE PUBLIC**

The proposed rules do not create an additional tax burden on employers.

### Benefits

The rules provide clarity for claimants and employers regarding unemployment claims involving underlying health conditions during a public health emergency.

### Conclusion

The rule change supports the Department's mission to develop the nation's best and most future-ready workforce with opportunities for all by providing additional benefits and thereby economic stability to claimants while imposing no costs across the employer base. Therefore, the Department concludes the probable benefits of the proposed rule are greater than its probable costs.