

To Whom It May Concern:

Emergency WAC Filing – Prequalified Bidding Rate extended

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, WSDOT has extended current prequalified bidding rates by one quarter.

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter [468-16](#) outlines the rules for pre-qualification of contractors for WSDOT highway work in accordance with [Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) 47.28.070](#). [WAC 468-16-090](#) part 12 establishes that the duration of a contractor's qualifications with the department will be the remainder of the applicant's fiscal year plus two quarters, or a total of 6 quarters from the ending date of the applicant's financial statement.

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, some contractors are having a difficult time getting their financial statements prepared and audited. The Federal Government has extended the tax filing deadline by a quarter from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020. This interferes with a contractor's ability to provide the financial statement required by part 8 of WAC 468-16-090. Additionally, we are hearing that there are strains on some accounting firms that contractors use to prepare or audit their financial statement which is causing delays even for contractors that have filed taxes early.

To be consistent with the Federal Government's tax extension, WSDOT has filed an emergency WAC change extending current qualifications by a quarter. Effective June 2, the duration of a contractor's qualifications will be the remainder of the applicant's fiscal year plus three quarters, or a total of 7 quarters from the ending date of the applicant's financial statement. This mean that contractors that expired March 31, 2020 and have not renewed their qualifications to date are now qualified until June 30, 2020. Contractors that were set to expire on June 30, 2020 will now remain qualified until September 30, 2020.

The emergency WAC filing will only be effective for 120 days and expiration dates will be pushed back a quarter. The [emergency WAC](#) can be reviewed online.

If you have questions, please contact us at CAA@wsdot.wa.gov or call 360-705-7835.