To Whom It May Concern

Proposed additions to prequalification work classifications for highway construction contractors

Date: Monday, August 17, 2026

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is proposing revisions to chapter 468-16 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) which outlines the process for construction contractors to qualify to perform work on the highway or right of way in Washington state.

WSDOT determined that there are two additional types of work in which we would like to establish contractor experience to ensure that contractors have the necessary experience, organization, and technical qualifications to perform the proposed contract. The new classifications are as follows:

- **High friction surface treatment** – high quality aggregate and polymer binder installation
- **Movable bridge construction** - construction, repair, or alteration of counterweight and operating wire ropes, counterweight and deflector sheaves, counterweights, trunnions and trunnion bearings, movable spans and leaves, span drive motors, hydraulic span drive and auxiliary drive systems, motor control centers, span drives, programmable logic control and relay control systems, span locks, motor and machinery brakes, drive machinery, warning gates and barrier gate systems.

WSDOT welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. WSDOT filed a proposal with the Office of the Code Reviser along with a proposed rule making. Those documents are attached to this bulletin. You may submit written comments to the staff person identified below until September 23, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

A public hearing to adopt the proposed rule making will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 9 – a.m. If you would like to attend the virtual hearing, please see below for a meeting link and information about how to participate in a Microsoft Teams meeting.

- Virtual hearing in Microsoft Teams: https://bit.ly/WAC-468-16-130-Sept-24-2026
- To join the virtual hearing, please use the web address shown for the hearing location or dial in by phone: +1 206-531-0324,,823312392# for United States, Seattle.
- You can use this link to find a local number: https://dialin.teams.cloud.microsoft/039e7852-bef4-4986-949b-6b82f4e2095f?id=823312392
- The phone conference ID is 823 312 392#.
- For further details about joining a Microsoft Teams meeting, you can visit this webpage: https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting?omkt=en-US

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before adoption by contacting:

Jenna Kemp, Contract Ad & Award Manager
1655 South 2nd Ave SW, Tumwater WA 98512
Phone: (360) 705-7017
Email: jenna.kemp@wsdot.wa.gov
Fax: 360-705-6810

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-01-170, filed 12/23/14, effective 1/23/15)

WAC 468-16-130 Prequalification work classes. A contractor seeking prequalification under this chapter will be classified for one or more of the following listed work classes in accordance with the adequacy of the firm's equipment and plant facilities and its demonstrated ability to perform the work class sought.

Class 1	**Clearing, grubbing, grading and draining** Removal of tree stumps, shrubs, modification of the ground surface by cuts and fills, excavating of earth materials, placement of drainage structures, and construction of structural earth walls.
Class 2	**Production and placing of crushed materials** Production and placing crushed surfacing materials and gravel.
Class 3	**Bituminous surface treatment** Placing of crushed materials with asphaltic application.
Class 4	**Asphalt concrete paving** Production and placing Asphalt Concrete Plant Mix Pavement.
Class 5	**Cement concrete paving** Production and placing cement concrete pavement.
Class 6	**Bridges and structures** Construction of bridges and other major structures of timber, steel, and concrete.
Class 7	**Buildings** Construction of buildings and related structures and major reconstruction and remodeling of such buildings.
Class 8	**Painting** Painting bridges, buildings, and related structures.
Class 9	**Traffic signals** Installation of traffic signal and control systems.
Class 10	**Structural tile cleaning** Cleaning tunnels, large buildings and structures and storage tanks.
Class 11	**Guardrail** Construction of a rail secured to uprights and erected as a barrier between, or beside lanes of a highway.
Class 12	**Pavement marking (excluding painting)** Thermoplastic markings, stripes, bars, symbols, etc. Traffic buttons, lane markers, guide posts.
Class 13	**Demolition** Removal of timber, steel, and concrete structures and obstructions.

Class 14 **Drilling and blasting**

Controlled blasting of rock and obstructions by means of explosives.

Class 15 **Sewers and water mains**

Draining, pipe jacking, water systems, pumping stations, storm drainage systems, sewer rehabilitation, sewage pumping stations, pressurized lines.

Class 16 **Illumination and general electrical**

Highway illumination, navigational lighting, wiring, junction boxes, conduit installation.

Class 17 **Cement concrete curb and gutter**

Sidewalks, spillways, driveways, monument cases and covers, right of way markers, traffic curbs, and gutters.

Class 18 **Asphalt concrete curb and gutter**

Sidewalks, spillways, driveways, monument cases and covers, right of way markers, traffic curbs, and gutters.

Class 19 **Riprap and rock walls**

Mortar, rubble, and masonry walls; rock retaining walls, and placing of large broken stone on earth surfaces for protection against the action of water.

Class 20 **Concrete structures except bridges**

Cast-in-place median barrier, prestressing, post-tensioned structures, footings, prefabricated panels and walls, retaining walls, and ramps, foundations, rock bolts, and concrete slope protection.

Class 21 **Tunnels and shaft excavation**

Tunnel excavation, rock tunneling, and soft bore tunneling.

Class 22 **Piledriving**

Driving concrete, steel, and timber piles.

Class 23 **Concrete surface finishes**

Architectural concrete surface finishes (fractured fin, random board, exposed aggregate, etc.). Waterproofing concrete surfaces (clear or pigmented sealer).

Class 24 **Fencing**

Wire and metal fencing, glare screens.

Class 25 **Bridge deck repair**

Bridge expansion joint repair and modification, bridge deck resurfacing and repair, deck seal.

Class 26 **((~~Not used~~)) <u>High friction surface treatment</u>**

<u>High quality aggregate and polymer binder installation.</u>

Class 27 **Signing**

Sign structures and sign foundations.

Class 28 **Drilled large diameter slurry shafts**

Drilled shafts 4' diameter or larger and greater than 15' deep when excavation is performed utilizing the wet method and concrete is placed by tremie methods under slurry.

Class 29 **Slurry diaphragm and cut-off walls**

Slurry excavation and the construction of structural concrete walls and slurry cut-off walls.

Class 30 **Surveying**

Highway construction surveying.

Class 31 **Water distribution and irrigation**

Irrigation systems and heavy duty water distribution.

Class 32 **Landscaping**

Landscape irrigation, planting, sodding, seeding, fertilizing, mulching, herbicide application, insecticide application, weed control, mowing, liming, soil binder, topsoil.

Class 33 **Engineering**

Work other than surveying, including engineering calculations, drawing and other related work for highway construction.

Class 34 **Erosion control**

Seeding, fertilizing, mulching, slope protection, topsoil application, hydro-seeding, soil stabilization, soil sampling.

Class 35 **Precast median barrier**

A concrete barrier that is cast and cured in other than its final position used to divide the median of two adjacent highways or temporarily placed to divert traffic in construction zones.

Class 36 **Earth retention and anchoring**

Installation of permanent soil nails, soldier piles, timber lagging and micropiles. Soldier pile tie-back anchor wall construction.

Class 37 **Impact attenuators**

Installation of approved protective systems filled with sand, water, foam, or other substances which prevent errant vehicles from impacting roadside hazards.

Class 38 **Paint striping**

Painted bars, letters, symbols, and striping.

Class 39 **Slope protection**

The installation of a zinc coated steel wire mesh anchored by wire rope and reinforced concrete posts or anchor rods. Used for dampening the effects of rolling rocks onto the highway. Slope scaling, horizontal drains, rock dowels, and rock bolts for slope stabilization.

Class 40 **Gabion and gabion construction**

Construction of walls made with containers of galvanized steel hexagonal wire mesh and filled with stone.

Class 41 **Intelligent transportation systems (ITS)**

Traffic sensors systems, highway advisory radios, environmental sensing stations, variable message signs, nonfiber optic based closed circuit television, and video systems.

Class 42 **Electronics - Fiber optic based communications systems**

Design and installation of fiber optic based communication systems.

Class 43 **Mechanical**

Plumbing work and the installation of heating or air conditioning units.

Class 44 **Asbestos abatement**

Asbestos abatement (L & I certified workers).

Class 45 **Hazardous waste removal**

The containment, cleanup, and disposal of toxic materials. Companies seeking this classification shall have full-time personnel with current hazardous waste training (certifications).

Class 46 **Concrete restoration**

Pavement subseal, cement concrete repair, epoxy coatings, epoxy repair, masonry repair, masonry cleaning, special coatings, epoxy injection, gunite, shotcrete grouting, pavement jacking, gunite repair, and pressure grouting.

Class 47 **Concrete sawing, coring, and grooving**

Concrete sawing, concrete planing, grinding, grooving, bump grinding, joint repair, concrete coring and rumble strips.

Class 48 **Dredging**

Excavating underwater materials.

Class 49 **Marine work**

Underwater surveillance, testing, repair, subaquatic construction, anchors, and cable replacement, floating concrete pontoon repairs and modifications, disassembly and assembly of floating concrete pontoons.

Class 50 **Ground modification**

Pressure grouting, blast densification, stone column, jet grouting, compaction, dynamic compaction, soil mixing, gravel drain.

Class 51 **Well drilling**

Drilling wells, installing pipe casing and pumping stations.

Class 52 **Sewage disposal**

Hauling and disposing liquid and solid wastes.

Class 53 **Traffic control**

Providing piloted traffic control, traffic control labor, and maintenance and protection of traffic.

Class 54 **Railroad construction**

Construction of railroad subgrade, placing of ballast, ties, and track and other items related to railroad work.

Class 55 **Steel fabrication**

Welding of steel members, heat straightening steel.

Class 56 **Street cleaning**

Street sweeping with self-propelled sweeping equipment.

Class 57 **Materials transporting**

Truck hauling.

Class 58 **Sand blasting and steam cleaning**

Steam cleaning, sand blasting, shot blasting, and water blasting.

Class 59 **Movable bridge installation and rehabilitation**

Construction, repair, or alteration of counterweight and operating wire ropes, counterweight and deflector sheaves, counterweights, trunnions and trunnion bearings, movable spans and leaves, span drive motors, hydraulic span drive and auxiliary drive systems, motor control centers, span drives, programmable logic control and relay control systems, span locks, motor and machinery brakes, drive machinery, warning gates and barrier gate systems.

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (June 2024)
(Implements RCW 34.05.320)
Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: August 11, 2026
TIME: 10:27 AM

WSR 26-17-033

Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation

☒ **Original Notice**
☐ **Supplemental Notice to WSR** _____
☐ **Continuance of WSR** _____

☒ **Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR** 26-05-034 **; or**
☐ **Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR** _____**; or**
☐ **Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or**
☐ **Proposal is exempt under RCW** _____**.**

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) amending WAC 468-16-130 pertaining to classes of work for contractors prequalified to perform highway construction.

Hearing location(s):

Date:	**Time:**	**Location:** (be specific)	**Comment:**
Thursday, September 24, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Virtual hearing in Microsoft Teams: https://bit.ly/WAC-468-16-130-Sept-24-2026	To join the virtual hearing, please use the web address shown for the hearing location or dial in by phone: +1 206-531-0324,,823312392# for United States, Seattle. You can use this link to find a local number: https://dialin.teams.cloud.microsoft/039e7852-bef4-4986-949b-6b82f4e2095f?id=823312392 The phone conference ID is 823 312 392#. For further details about joining a Microsoft Teams meeting, you can visit this webpage: https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting?omkt=en-US

Date of intended adoption: 9/24/2026 (Note: This is **NOT** the **effective** date)

Submit written comments to:
Name Jenna Kemp
Address 1655 South 2nd Ave SW, Tumwater WA 98512
Email jenna.kemp@wsdot.wa.gov
Fax 360-705-6810
Other
Beginning (date and time) the date and time of this filing
By (date and time) September 23, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Assistance for persons with disabilities:
Contact Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) office
Phone Toll-free: 855-362-4ADA(4232)
Fax
TTY 711
Email wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov
Other
By (date) September 16, 2026

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has determined that there are two additional types of work in which we would like to establish contractor experience to ensure that contractors have the necessary experience, organization, and technical qualifications to perform the proposed contract. The new classifications are high friction surface treatment and movable bridge construction.

Reasons supporting proposal: Establishing the new classifications to qualify contractors under will ensure that these types of contracts are performed by qualified vendors in the future.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 47.01.101, RCW 47.28.030, and RCW 47.28.070

Statute being implemented:

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law?	☐ Yes	☒ No
Federal Court Decision?	☐ Yes	☒ No
State Court Decision?	☐ Yes	☒ No

If yes, CITATION:

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:

Name of proponent: (person or organization) The Washington State Department of Transportation
Type of proponent: ☐ Private. ☐ Public. ☒ Governmental.

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting	Jenna Kemp	Tumwater, WA	360-705-7017
Implementation	Jenna Kemp	Tumwater, WA	360-705-7017
Enforcement	Jenna Kemp	Tumwater, WA	360-705-7017

Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under RCW 28A.305.135? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:
Name
Address
Phone
Fax
TTY
Email
Other

Is a cost-benefit analysis required under RCW 34.05.328?

☐ Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:
Name
Address
Phone
Fax
TTY
Email
Other

☒ No: Please explain: This is not required because WSDOT is not subject to RCW 34.05.328(5)(a)(i) and has not made RCW 34.05.328 applicable to this rule.

Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement
Note: The Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance (ORIA) provides support in completing this part.

(1) Identification of exemptions:
This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see chapter 19.85 RCW). For additional information on exemptions, consult the exemption guide published by ORIA. Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.061 because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.
Citation and description:

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by RCW 34.05.313 before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of RCW 15.65.570(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025(3). Check all that apply:

- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(b) (Internal government operations)
- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(c) (Incorporation by reference)
- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(d) (Correct or clarify language)
- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(e) (Dictated by statute)
- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(f) (Set or adjust fees)
- ☐ RCW 34.05.310 (4)(g) ((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit)

☒ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 19.85.025(4). (Does not affect small businesses).

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW _____.

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule:

WSDOT's prequalification process is no cost to vendors. This change simply adds new types of work and would not change the process or effort required to become prequalified, which remains no cost and unchanged.

(2) Scope of exemptions: *Check one.*

☒ The rule proposal: Is fully exempt. *(Skip section 3.)* Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.

☐ The rule proposal: Is partially exempt. *(Complete section 3.)* The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using this template from ORIA):

☐ The rule proposal: Is not exempt. *(Complete section 3.)* No exemptions were identified above.

(3) Small business economic impact statement: *Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.*

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

☐ No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs.

☐ Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name
Address
Phone
Fax
TTY
Email
Other

Date: August 11, 2026	**Signature:**
Name: Sam Wilson	Sam Wilson
Title: Director, Business Support Services	