

# Travel Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: Health Care Authority

Agency Director signature:



Date Approved	Position Title	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
8/25/2025	Tribal Affairs Administrator	\$55.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	Tribal Affairs Administrator	\$424.36	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	TRIBAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR COO/OTA/TH	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	TRIBAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR COO/OTA/TH	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	SOR communications consultant	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	Chief Medical Officer	\$20.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	DBHR Division Director	\$898.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	Health Care Program Manager	\$117.46	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	Crisis System Admin	\$138.84	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	HEALTH SERVICES CONSULTANT 4	\$0.00	Other state funds	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	IT SYSTEM ADMIN - SR/SPEC	\$26.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	IT CUST. SUPPORT - SR/SPEC	\$0.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/25/2025	Problem Gambling Program Administrator	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position;#Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
8/25/2025	Health Care Program Specialist	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position;#Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
8/25/2025	Health Care Program Specialist	\$935.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/27/2025	DBHR Division Director	\$50.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/29/2025	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST 3	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Associate Medical Director	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
9/5/2025	Angela Cruz-Bolt (Non-HCA Employee)	\$0.00	Federal	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Provider Representative	\$316.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Assistant Chief Pharmacy Officer	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants;#Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Management Analyst 4	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Essential to the responsibilities of a position;#Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
9/5/2025	TRIBAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR COO/OTA/T	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants;#Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Health Care Program Manager	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants;#Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Health Care Program Manager	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants;#Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	Nursing Consultant Advisor	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
9/5/2025	Chief Policy Officer	\$0.00	Federal	Essential to the responsibilities of a position;#Funded exclusively by private or federal grants
9/5/2025	Health Care Program Manager	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Funded exclusively by private or federal grants;#Essential to the responsibilities of a position
9/5/2025	LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS MANAGER	\$0.00	Grant/Project	Essential to the responsibilities of a position
8/20/2025	Agency Director	\$0.00	Travel ONLY - N/A 3rd Party	Essential to the responsibilities of a position and fully funded by 3rd party

# Hiring Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: Health Care Authority

Agency Director signature:

(Do not report a running list, only report new actions since your last report.)

Date	Hire Date keyed into	SAP Position	Position Title	Job Class Code	Job Class Title	Fund Source (e.g.,	Rationale for Approving Exception
Approved	HRMS (Start Date)	Number (8 digits)				GF5, Traspo, etc.)	
6/6/2025	9/1/2025	71100442	Occupational N 285N		Occupational Nurse Consultant	GF-5 (9506)	<p>This position is critical to ensure HCA meets our statutory responsibilities. This position is part of a team of 10 FTE's, all of which are the same job classification. Typically, this would provide the consideration to distribute this position's workload to other team members. However, this team has several other vacancies and will soon have to operate with only 6 filled positions. Specific justification includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High Volume and Complexity: In calendar year 2023, this position processed 17,961 prior authorization (PA) requests. The scope of responsibilities—clinical reviews, policy development, legislative initiatives, and interagency coordination—would ideally be supported by a team of three ONCs. The clinical and administrative intensity of the work underscores the need for immediate replacement.</li> <li>2. Broad Scope of Responsibilities: The ONC Program Manager is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical necessity reviews and utilization management of DMEPOS services.</li> <li>• Development and maintenance of clinical policy, WACs, and Medicaid billing guides.</li> <li>• Coordination with interagency partners.</li> <li>• Leadership on a preferred provider proposal, which is anticipated to be included in the legislature's upcoming budget package.</li> <li>• Management of DMEPOS dashboard – pending publication</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Legal and Hearing Expertise: This ONC also functions as the agency's clinical expert witness in Medicaid administrative hearings. DMEPOS-related cases average 2–5 hearing requests per month, with hearings lasting 1–4 hours and often requiring continuances. Each hearing demands detailed clinical and legal preparation.</li> <li>4. High-Cost, High-Risk Program Area: DMEPOS includes some of the highest-cost services in the Medicaid fee-for-service program. Current estimates show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over \$55 million annually for incontinent and urinary supplies alone.</li> <li>• Over \$10 million annually for CRT in nursing facilities.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Additional expenditure data from the DMEPOS program dashboard is pending and expected within the next few weeks. This program is also a well-known target for fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA), heightening the importance of strong clinical oversight.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. No Capacity to Redistribute Workload: The remaining CQCT ONCs are fully assigned to other high-priority programs. Reassigning responsibilities from this position would risk compromising both operational efficiency and compliance in multiple areas.</li> </ol>

Contracts Freeze Exception Report to OFM						
Agency: Health Care Authority						
Agency Director signature:						
Date Approved	Name of Contractor	Brief Description of Services	Term of Contract	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
9/2/2025		Renewal of SAAG contract between HCA, AGO, and tax law firm Ice Miller for legal tax advice needed to operate the PEBB and SEBB programs. DLS has 24,000/24,000 PEBB/SEBB split funding allocated for SFY 26.	08/05/2025 - 06/30/2026	\$48,000.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The Center for the Study of Health and Risk Behaviors (CSHRB) is being brought on to evaluate three new programs within the Problem Gambling Program: 1) Community Prevention Grants, 2) Statewide media campaign, and 3) GamFin, a financial counseling service for people who have a gambling disorder. This is to measure program effectiveness and quality improvement.	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$42,000.00	Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The purpose of this contract is to establish a mechanism for payment to fund the creation of a street medicine team pilot program in accordance with the legislative mandate in ESSB 5950. New Proviso funding: (65) \$2,650,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and \$2,650,000 of the general fund for fiscal year 2027 are provided solely for the authority to continue contracts with King county, Kitsap county, Tacoma, Everett, and Spokane for street medicine teams that rapidly assess and address the acute and chronic physical and behavioral health needs of homeless people. The teams must offer integrated, team-based medical, mental health, substance use, and infectious disease treatment and prevention, and navigation and case management services.	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$716,000.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The purpose of this contract is to establish a mechanism for payment to fund the creation of a street medicine team pilot program in accordance with the legislative mandate in ESSB 5950. New Proviso funding: (65) \$2,650,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and \$2,650,000 of the general fund for fiscal year 2027 are provided solely for the authority to continue contracts with King county, Kitsap county, Tacoma, Everett, and Spokane for street medicine teams that rapidly assess and address the acute and chronic physical and behavioral health needs of homeless people. The teams must offer integrated, team-based medical, mental health, substance abuse and infectious disease treatment, prevention and navigation.	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$1,432,000.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The purpose of this SLA is to maintain and operate the statewide telephone consultation outreach program, in accordance with RCW 71.24.061 which is marketed as the Partnership Access Line (PAL).  The goal is to support primary care providers in the assessment and provision of accurate diagnosis and treatment of children with mental and behavioral health disorders, including tracking outcomes of the program improve children's mental health treatment; and the access to that treatment by providing outreach and focused educational learning collaboratives We are amending the Statement of Work to reflect/restate changes to the deliverables and better alignment with the RCW. 	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$2,788,502.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The purpose of this SLA is to facilitate implementation of Contractor's First Approach Skills Training (FAST) program, which hereinafter may also be referred to as "FAST" or the "FAST program," in accordance with RCW 71.24.061. The goal of the of the FAST program is to provides brief evidence-based and evidence-informed behavioral health therapy training resources, for qualified mental behavioral health clinicians/professionals, as defined by Washington sState credentialing standards, in primary care and behavioral health agencies. FAST is designed for youth and families with common mental health concerns. We are amending the Statement of Work to reflect/restate changes to the deliverables and better alignment with the RCW. 	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$370,000.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The purpose of this SLA is to maintain and operate the statewide telephone consultation outreach program, in accordance with RCW 71.24.061 which is marketed as the Partnership Access Line (PAL).  The goal is to support primary care providers in the assessment and provision of accurate diagnosis and treatment of children with mental and behavioral health disorders, including tracking outcomes of the program improve children's mental health treatment; and the access to that treatment by providing outreach and focused educational learning collaboratives We are amending the Statement of Work to reflect/restate changes to the deliverables and better alignment with the RCW. 	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$2,788,502.00	Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		HCA will provide funding to sponsor the development and execution of the annual Washington State Association of Drug Court Professional's Conference (WSADCP). This event shall include two (2) days of speakers and presentations on trends and best practices for drug court and behavioral health professionals.	07/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$20,000.00	Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		Amendment to continue funding for existing contract K7582 to Provide behavioral health education, promote a substance use disorder/mental health (SUD/MH) wellness and recovery culture, support underrepresented and underserved communities, skill training, events and conferences to individuals, youth/young adults, parents/parent partners, and caregivers within the lived experience communities in Washington State. Budget code: RecSum CF06-250k per year ongoing.	08/25/2025 - 06/30/2027	\$500,000.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/2/2025		The maintenance of our split AC units and CRAC AC units is critical to keeping the rooms that house the agency servers, etc., at the proper temperature for that equipment to function.	12/01/2025 - 11/30/2026	\$11,000.00	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
9/5/2025		Laserfiche is the agency's document management system. It processes and stores all agency documents within a secure cloud environment.	09/19/2025 - 09/19/2026	\$232,925.57	Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations

Goods and Equipment Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency:  
Program:  
Agency Director signature:

Date Approved	Description of Goods or Equipment	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception