Hiring Freeze Exc	eption Re	port to	OFN
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Agency: Health Care Authority Program: All Divisions and Sections Agency Director signature:

Susan E. Birch

Date Approved	Position Title	SAP Position Number (8 digits)	Annual Salary Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception	
	12/23/2024 ERB IT Senior Manager	71108343	143,628 Other State	Funds Critical to the operations of the agency; this position is essential to ensuring progress with the Benefits 24/7 workload in PEBB/SEBB, which affects the entire enterprise.	
	12/23/2024 Behavioral Health Data Translation Manager (WMS 2)	71108432		1-107001CA&0 - Critical to the agency's ability to meet statutory requirements. The agency is required to provide specific data to SAMHSA on how funding is spent. If the data is not being collected at all or accurately, the agency is at significant risk of losing federal funding. This position's primary focus and responsibility will be to drive the efforts of this data collection and ensuring we are in compliance.	
	12/23/2024 Community Information Exchange Program Manager (WMS 3)	71070624	142,512 Grant/Proje	tt - 1075129 Critical to the agency's ability to meet statutory requirements. The Community Information Exchange project is intended to create an electronic tool for Medicaid health care providers to use to help aid the coordination of and connection to necessary community resources, identify and screen for health-related social needs, share data, close referrals, and assist with data analytics of health-related services. This project was funded by the legislature two years ago, and the work is still in the beginning stages.	
	12/23/2024 IT Quality Assurance - Senior Specialist SDET	71107547	121,116 Other State	Critical to the operations of the agency; this position is essential to ensuring progress with the Benefits 24/7 workload in PEBB/SEBB, which affects the entire enterprise. This position is critical to the successful operations of the PEBB and SEBB enrollment platform, health carrier interfaces, and invoicing of over \$2 billion annually. This position is accountable for ensuring ERBs IT systems adhere to federal laws, regulations, standards mandated by PEB and SEB Boards, Washington Technology Solutions, HCA policies and standards, and all applicable RCW/WAC. Additionally supports health carriers in maintaining federal compliance (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services).	

Ith Care Authority	C	Contracts Freeze Exception Report to C	)FM		
Divisions and Sections ctor signature: red Name of Cor	Susan E. Bi	ITCN Brief Description of Services	Term of Contract	Total Cost Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Excepti
12/16/2024 Right System		Bits Description of Services  PIS-192717 - Order Description of Services  Bits Description of Se		\$14,417.67 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continu services or agency operations
12/16/2024 SHI		B-2717 DocuSign. Required for ALL digital document signing.	01/13/2025 - 01/12/2026	\$48,931.83 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue services or agency operations
12/16/2024 SHI		B2717 - File system and active directory services backup (required).	12/22/2024 - 12/21/2025	\$24,090.78 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to contin services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Milliman		Milliman will collaborate with the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) to operationalize the mobile crisis response framework developed in response to House Bill 1134. Milliman has been collaborating with HCA through an organig technical assistance work order to ensure all tasks are identified prior to de- testablishment of the initial cohort of endorsed teams effective January 2025. HB IIS4 required HCA to develop an enhancer after for endorsed teams. This is necessary to implement that directive.	12/16/2024 - 06/30/2025	\$350,000.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to contin services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Conduent Sta	ate Healthcare, LLC	B3515 (Amendment - 7) Extension of the term of contract and adding additional funding for contract execution. Supports Pharmacy Point of Sale Solution.	09/09/2021 - 06/07/2031	\$4,096,200.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to contin services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Peer Washin	gton	SB5555 required an enhancement of the Peer Curriculum, due to the tight turn around, the contractor was unable to make the deadline and we were not allowed to extend the original contract. This contract is a partial shifting for provisor funding to complete the deleverables for the original contract. Two more CPC trainings have been added as well, to fill the pap in training from January and February as well as funding for Live Virtual GAP trainings, as required for current CPCs to obtain the new peer profession credential.	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$186,750.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to contin services or agency operations
12/16/2024 TBD		Request for proposals to renew technology assessment contractors (TAC) for the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) program as required by RCW 70.14.100. These TACs produce evidence reviews for technologies that have concerns about safely, efficacy, or cost-effectiveness and state expenditures could be or are high, due to demand for the technology, its cost, or both. TACs support the Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTAC) who make coverage determinations/policies that are followed by Apple Health, Uniform Medical Plan, Department of Labor and Industries, and other state programs.  The protection of life or public safety—The Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTCC) is a committee of 11	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2029	\$2,786,628.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to conti services or agency operations
		clinicians ranging in practitioner types and specialities (RCW 70.14.090) charged with making coverage decisions/policies on selected topics, often with an uncertain evidence-base and may be contentious. Determinations come through best available evidence presented via health technology assessments by independent evidence-based practice centers. These centers are charged with reviewing and presenting all available evidence around a selected topics safety, efficacy, or cost-effectiveness under RCW 70.14.100. This assists in determinations that help make state-purchased health care more cost effective by paying for medica tools and procedures that are proven to work.			
		State agencies across the state pay for healthcare and they want to pay for what is proven to work as supported by evidence. Washington state has been executing this since 2006 through RCW 70.14 with independent evidence-based practice vendors producing health technology assessments and presentations give to the Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTCC). These vendors play a required role is producing these assessments free from bias, giving the greatest weight to the evidence determined to be most valid and reliable.			
12/16/2024 Centers for N	Medicare Medicaid Services	This data is critical to the legislatively mandated work of the WA-APCD. This amendment purchase is for physical refreshed CMS data files, which allows HCA to continue to examine CMS Medicare data with commercial and Medical claims data within a statewide APCD system in order to generate the most up-to- date reporting regarding the cost, quality, and utilization of healthcare services being delivered to residents across Washindon State	11/23/2024 - 11/23/2025	\$24,000.00 Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to conti services or agency operations
12/16/2024 TBD		Since 2019, the Health Care Authority has been the lead in the Fern Lodge Behavioral Wellness project which in a 16-bed in pastient facility that will offer around the-clock care to its residents on 90 - or 180-day treatment plans. This project has been a joint effort involving the Tukalip Tribes of Washington, the Governor's office, and DSHS. We are at the point in the project where the facility will be ready to open the first quarter of 2025. We've had to follow a strict timeline through each step of this project.	02/14/2025 - 06/30/2026	\$2,000,000.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continuous services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Colehour & C	Cohen Inc	A campaign to educate providers, first responders, and the public about Medication for Opioid Use disorder with goal to increase prescription rates and decrease the rate of overdose in our state.	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$15,000,000.00 Federal	Essential   Necessary to conti services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Desautel Hej	ge Communications	Per proviso of Leg session 2024 Senate Bill 5950-Sec. 215, 2023 c 475 s 215 (uncodified) - (158) \$2,000,000 of the opioid abatement settlement account—state appropriation is provided solely for a tribat opioid preventio campaign to inform and educate tribin communities above poid in disuse prevention, overdose response, and treatment. Funding will be used to pay the current media vendor, DH to develop opioid youth awareness and revention campaign and distribute campaign materials. In addition, there are federal match funds of \$375,000 These funds will be used to support grants to Tribes to localize new youth campaign materials as they see fit.		\$2,375,000.00 Grant/Project	Essential   Necessary to conti services or agency operations
12/16/2024 TBD		Request for proposals to renew technology assessment contractors (TAC) for the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) program as required by RCW 70.14.100. These TACs produce evidence reviews for technologies that have concerns about safely, efficacy, or cost-effectiveness and state expenditures could be or are high, due to demand for the technology, its cost, or both. TACs support the Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTC) who make coverage determinations/policies that are followed by Apple Health, Uniform Medical Plan, Department of Labor and Industries, and other state programs.	07/01/2025 - 06/30/2029	\$2,786,628.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to conti services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Comagine He	ealth	Comagine conducts medical necessity reviews on prior authorizations that are submitted to HCA and forwards the recommendations to HCA for final authorization determination.  Comagine conducts reviews for Apple Health clients who are currently eligible and enrolled in fee-for-service as the primary insurance and Emergency Related Services Only (ERSO) noncitizen program/Alien Medical	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2026	\$1,514,000.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continuous services or agency operations
12/16/2024 Integrated Sc	olutions Group Llc	Pineram IAMPI clients.  This is a Health and Human Services Enterprise Coalition (HHS Coalition) contract K6523 workorder for Quality Assurance/Technical Quality Review (QA/TQR) Services by an independent third party, in this case Integrated Solutions Group (ISG) for Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) Healthplanfinder (HPF) Modernization project, which is an approved information technology project with gated funding.	TBD- 06/30/2025	\$188,990.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continuous services or agency operations
12/16/2024 South Puget (SPSCC)	Sound Community College	Business Analysis Services for Benefits 24/7 PEBB and SEBB enrollment platform	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$136,000.00 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continuous services or agency operations
12/16/2024 CloudPWR		RIA performing Mental Health Parity Compliance with an existing contract. This GSR is to extend terms thru 6/30/2025. No additional funding.	TBD- 06/30/2025	\$0.00 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continuous services or agency operations
12/17/2024 Integrated Sc	olutions Group	This is for two new amendments and one new work order for the Integrated Solutions Group contract for project management services for David Ruble. There are two critical projects that these amendments and work order will cover: 2) Continued support for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Certification Review process for the Pharmacy Point-of-Sale (POS) system. 2) Initiate and manage the project to conduct a competitive procurement of the ProviderOne Operations & Maintenance (D&M) contract per directive from CMS. Program Index for POS work: ESSIS, Program Index for P1 work: ESSIS.	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2026	\$1,176,000.00 Split Funding This is a ssumed be 90/10 b.IThis is a 2 yr contract	to Essential   Necessary to contin services or agency operations

12/23/2024 OHSU Center for Evidence-based Policy	The Center for Evidence-based Policy (CEDP) at OHSU will provide two years of targeted technical assistance in support of HCA's efforts to improve the care provided through Washington's Medicaid program and Employee and Reirement Benefits (FBB) program. CEDP is currently and will continue to provide support for the Washington Multi-paper Collaborative (MPC), consisting of privately and publicy funded health insurers, with the goal of aligning health care transformation efforts in the state through the Primary Care Transformation Intilately (PCI). The support that the CEDP team provides is the foundation for many efforts in progress for multiple payers, stakeholders, partners including CMS, and the legislature.	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$165,000.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
	• Primary care transformation: Per RCW 41.05, one of our agency's main purposes is to "study all state purchased health care, alternative health care delivery systems, and strategies for the procurement of health care services and make recommendations aimed at minimizing the financial burden which health care poses on the state, public employees, and its charges, while at the same time allowing the state to provide the most comprehensive health care protess ossible. The goals of the PCII efforts are to achieve the quotuple aim of enhancing patient experience, improving population health, reducing costs, and improving the work life of health care protess of the STE of the PCII efforts are to achieve the quotuple aim of enhancing patient experience, improving population health, reducing costs, and improving the work life of health care providers CEPP's technical assistance of the PPC and the PCII work is critical to an aligned approach among all payers within the state. • Nulls-payer Collaborative: HO is a member of the Mulls-Payer Collaborative (MPC). The MPC consists of nine (10) payers including HOA and Centers for Medicare 8. Medicald Sendors. Each participating payer has a contract with CEPP to fund this collaborative work that equally splits the cost and this contract includes funds to pay for HCA's part Washingbon is one of eight states participating in CMS Making Care Primary (MCP) model. Washington was identified as a state with a strong multi-payer coalition already in place and primed for transformation. On July 9, 2024, a nevent was held in person to recognize the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by ten payers including HCA in addition, CMS signed a MOU with HCA signaling their alignment with the state's transformation offorts. The event was attended by a coalition of primary care poviders, legislators, primary care payers, purchasers, and representatives from CMS.			
12/23/2024 Peer Washington	Certified Peer Specialist Curriculum Enhancement as enacted by SB5555 - Certified Peer GAP Trainings, Certified Peer Counselor Trainings - \$139,043 - State funding from the ESSB 5187 Proviso 121 FY25. Also includes federal funding: MRSS-13 FY25 MHBG \$17,707.00 and SABG FY25 \$30,000	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$186,750.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 DES Lease/Dell	HCA needs to order 200 laptops to complete the ongoing mandatory Generation 3 technical refresh and to backfill our existing shortages due to the agency's FTE increase. 125 laptops will be made available for the Generation 3 technical refresh and 75 laptops will be available for onboarding activities.	01/01/2025 - 01/01/2029	\$405,635.04 Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Milliman	calculate long term civil commitment per diems and produce annual upper payment limit demonstrations non- hospital services	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$104,070.00 Split Funding 50/50 match for Medicaid administrative activities. \$52035 - GF-S 0010 \$52035 - federal	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Myers and Stauffer	Per 42 CPR 455.304 (p.). The State must submit an independent certified audit and an annual report to CMS for each completed Medical State plant set year, to receive Perderal payments under Section 1905(9)(1) of the Act based on State expenditures for disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments for Medicaid State plan rate years. Without this independent audit and annual report, the state is at risk to losing the federal funding in both the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program, and also the overall Medicaid program.	02/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$428,400.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Moda Health	Update to Moda Health Core Financial Guarantees. These guarantees ensure that HCA receives the best discounts possible on prescription drugs for PEBB and SEBB members and that our PBM is reimbursing pharmacies appropria	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2031	\$0.00 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Milliman	This workorder covers two work streams. 1) UPL demonstrations - CMS requires states to complete UPL demonstrations everyyear. This is a federal requirement. 2) Calculating updated long-term civil commitment rates for cauche care hospitals. Section 215 of the operating budget directs that HCA must update these rates each year. This is a state requirement.	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$104,070.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	This is directly related to State v, Blake Supreme Court Case and the Statewide Response. This is direct lient services. The Medication for opioid use disorder program (MDU) and Medication for alcohol use disorder (MAUD) in alls! Program provides incarcerated individuals the opportunity for an opioid use disorder (MUD) assessment, evidence-based medication for OUDNAID, settained treatment throughout incarceration, and connection to continue treatment upon release or transfer. This contract directly covers costs for medications, staffing, and operational needs to administer MOUD/MAUD in a juit setting. Pt Code: 08152 Opioid Abatement Settlement.	11/01/2024 - 06/30/2025	\$900,000.00 Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Department of Health	This is a reimbursement agreement between HCA and DOH. The purpose of the agreement is for HCA, as the single State Medical Appent, to claim enhanced Medical forder Indingt on perhad To DOH for planning and coordination of activities and responsibilities to support the state's Medical program and Medicald Information Technology. Architecture business processes. This agreement is to ensure the proper elements and commitments are in place between HCA and DOH to represent an accurate and accountable financial relationship and responsibilities.		\$4,361,847.00 Split Funding 90/10 federal state split with the GF-S coming from DOH. Per the contract, the state has to be received from DOH prior to us claiming the federal. No budget risk to HCA.	
12/23/2024 Department of Health	This is a reimbursement agreement between HCA and DOH. The purpose of the agreement is for HCA, as the single State Medical Agency, to claim enhanced Medicalif feberal funding on behalf of DOH for planning and coordination of activities and responsibilities to support the state's Medical give grown and Medicalif Information Technology Architecture business processes. This agreement is to ensure the proper elements and commitments are in face between HCA and DOH to represent an accurate and accountable financial relationship and responsibilities.		\$4,361,847.00 Split Funding This is a 90/10 Federal Match The amounts above represent the combined FFY 2025 and FFY 2026 amounts.	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Recovery Cafe Orting Valley and Skagit County	Client housing subsidies is a client service that allows people experiencing a substance use disorder to gain or maintain housing. People served are unsheltered or in shelters or in situations that put them at risk of losing housing. K7234 Recovery Café Orting Valley and K7237 Skagft County currently receive these funds.	01/30/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$36,433.00 Gen State Funds (GFS)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Selvius Turner	Benuest to neture to nestine shortest from 1724 Recoveror Cafe Ordina in the amount of 18 A73 and add and ordinate of the recovery the second ordinate of the second ordinate	02/01/2025 - 08/30/2025	\$59,620,00 Other state funds	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Rhonda Ranger and Melinda Darmody	These software development resources are critical to ensure PEBB and SEBB members are enrolled appropriately with carriers to receive their entitled medical, dental, and vision benefits. Benefits 24/7 application is in a riabilization perior that requires significant support in interfaces with financial system PAV1 (2 billion invoiced annually), external interfaces with third-parly vendors, agencies, and school districts. This contract supports 800,000 subscribers and respectus pospess dependents avoiding interruptions in health coverage resulting from potential delays in receiving care and necessary medications. Further impacts can be experienced with potential fish penalties with inconvert personing USEBB 4FBB organizations, issues with meeting compliance with Office of insurance Commissioner and support of board and legislative mandates.	02/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	\$148,516.00 Other state funds 50% PEBB (Fund 418) & 50% SEBB (Fund 432) A418 (50%) and A492 (50%)	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Comprehensive Healthcare	Delivery phase of their contract. They recently received state and federal approval to operate their OTP MMU. This will expand treatment access in their community further.	04/04/2023 - 06/30/2025	\$420,099.00 Other state funds Funding details-refer to bill #ESSB5693 proviso #128—state funds.	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Acadia Healthcare/WCHS, Inc.	clinics. Acadia Healthcare was the apparently successful bidder for 2024HCA8 Bid Opportunity #1. Funding will support the retrofit of building for an OTP in Wenatchee, WA, bringing necessary treatment for opioid use disorder in an area where there is no current treatment.	01/01/2025 - 06/30/2027		services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Laura Beste	This contract renewal extends Laura Besté's term as a member of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&I) and Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Committee (WAC 182-50-025). This will be her second term. The P&Tr/DUR Committee evaluates the safety, efficacy, and effectiveness of prescription drugs within drug classes. It makes recommendations for the Washington preferred drug list (ROW 70.14.050) and serves as the Apple Health (Medicali) DUR Bard for similar evaluations. The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) board is a federally required board in order to receive federal match for the Pharmacy program.	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2027	\$30,060.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations
12/23/2024 Scott Henderson	RCW 42.30.035 mandates minutes for all State Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) meetings. As the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) and Drug Utilization Review (DUR) committees fall under the State Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), LNS Captioning has been the contractor transcribing meeting minutes for these committees.	01/01/2024 - 12/31/2026	\$16,000.00 Split Funding	Essential   Necessary to continue critical services or agency operations

## **Goods and Equipment Freeze Exception Report to OFM**

Agency: Health Care Authority
Program: All Divisions and Sections
Agency Director signature:

Date Approved Description of Goods or Equipment

**Total Cost** 

**Fund Source** 

**Rationale for Approving Exception** 

## **Travel Freeze Exception Report to OFM** Agency: Health Care Authority **Program: All Divisions and Sections** Agency Director signature: Susan E. Birch **Total Cost Fund Source Date Approved Position Title Rationale for Approving Exception** 12/16/2024 MAPS3 \$130.00 Federal $Essential\ to\ the\ responsibilities\ of\ a\ position$ 12/16/2024 MAPS3 \$0.00 Federal Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/16/2024 Section Manager \$71.00 Federal Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/16/2024 Section Manager \$916.00 Gen State Funds (GFS) Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/16/2024 BENEFITS MARKETING REPRESE \$502.92 Other state funds Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/16/2024 BENEFITS MARKETING REPRESE \$502.92 Other state funds Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/17/2024 BENEFITS MARKETING REPRESE \$688.05 Other state funds Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/17/2024 BENEFITS MARKETING REPRESE \$688.05 Other state funds Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/18/2024 Deputy Clinical Strategy & Opera \$0.00 Grant/Project Funded exclusively by private or federal grants 12/18/2024 Deputy Clinical Strategy & Opera \$0.00 Grant/Project Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/20/2024 MAPS3 \$1.18 Federal Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/23/2024 MAPS3 \$2,253.00 Other state funds Essential to the responsibilities of a position 12/23/2024 Management Analyst 5 \$0.00 Grant/Project Funded exclusively by private or federal grants 12/23/2024 Recovery Support Supervisor \$2.52 Federal Essential to the responsibilities of a position

Signature: SUE BIRCH (Dec 30, 2024 16:53 PST)

Email: sue.birch@hca.wa.gov

## HCA Freeze Exception Log Dec 30 2024

Final Audit Report 2024-12-31

Created: 2024-12-31

By: MICHELLE LE DUC (michelle.leduc@hca.wa.gov)

Status: Signed

Transaction ID: CBJCHBCAABAAVGULCbXpE-2QBCdm575Lf479jDNP4csl

## "HCA Freeze Exception Log Dec 30 2024" History

Document created by MICHELLE LE DUC (michelle.leduc@hca.wa.gov) 2024-12-31 - 0:51:07 AM GMT

Document emailed to SUE BIRCH (sue.birch@hca.wa.gov) for signature 2024-12-31 - 0:51:58 AM GMT

Email viewed by SUE BIRCH (sue.birch@hca.wa.gov)

Document e-signed by SUE BIRCH (sue.birch@hca.wa.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-12-31 - 0:53:04 AM GMT - Time Source: server

Agreement completed. 2024-12-31 - 0:53:04 AM GMT