- WAC 246-562-070 Criteria for practice locations. (1) All proposed practice location(s) must be an existing practice location in Washington state for at least 12 months prior to application submittal.
- (2) All proposed practice location(s) provided in the application will be counted toward the maximum number of sponsorships allotted as described in WAC 246-562-095 (6)(a).
 - (3) Any proposed practice location(s) must be located in:
- (a) A federally designated primary care HPSA(s) in Washington state; or
- (b) A federally designated mental health HPSA(s) in Washington state for psychiatrists applications.
- (4) Local, state, or federal institutions that are federally designated with a facility designation may request state sponsorship. Physician services may be limited to the population of the institution. All other state and federal requirements must be met.
- (5) If the practice location is not located in a federally designated HPSA or a state correctional or psychiatric institution, then the applicant must apply for a Flex waiver.
 - (6) Successful Flex waiver applicants must be able to document:
- (a) Their practice location's service area and to what extent they provide services to residents of surrounding designated HPSAs;
- (b) The percentage of the sponsored physician's patient panel reasonably expected to be medicaid and medicare patients given current use of the service and practice location by those populations;
- (c) How the applicant will ensure access to this physician for low-income or uninsured patients;
- (d) If there is a unique practice area or substantial referral network making the physician a statewide resource for certain medical conditions; and
- (e) If the physician has language skills that will benefit patients at the practice location.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 70.185.040. WSR 24-18-072, § 246-562-070, filed 8/29/24, effective 10/1/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.185.040 and P.L. 110-362. WSR 16-17-060, § 246-562-070, filed 8/12/16, effective 10/1/16. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.185 RCW and Public Law 108-441. WSR 06-07-035, § 246-562-070, filed 3/8/06, effective 4/8/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.185 RCW. WSR 98-20-067, § 246-562-070, filed 10/2/98, effective 11/2/98.]