

WAC 246-230-010 Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) "ALARA" (as low as reasonably achievable or as low as is reasonably achievable) means making every reasonable effort to maintain exposures to radiation as far below the dose limits in this chapter as is practical, consistent with the purpose for which the licensed activity is undertaken, taking into account the state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to the state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to the benefits to the public health and safety, and other societal and socioeconomic considerations, and in relation to the utilization of nuclear energy and licensed materials in the public interest.

(2) "Alternative screening" means a method of screening that does not utilize ionizing radiation.

(3) "Correctional facility" means a facility or institution operated directly or by contract by the secretary of corrections or his or her designee for the purposes of incarcerating adults in total or partial confinement, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(4) "Department" means the Washington state department of health, which has been designated as the state radiation control agency under chapter 70A.388 RCW.

(5) "Detention facility" means a county facility, paid for by the county, for the physical confinement of a juvenile alleges to have committed an offense or an adjudicated offender subject to a disposition or modification order. "Detention facility" includes county group homes, inpatient substance abuse programs, juvenile basic training camps, and electronic monitoring.

(6) "Dose record" means a record for each individual subject to screening and includes:

- (a) Name of individual;
- (b) Date and time of screening; and
- (c) Dose of radiation received at time of screening.

This record does not include images produced by the security screening system.

(7) "Engineering control" means a safety component of the security screening system designed to prevent improper operation or unintended radiation exposure.

(8) "General-use security screening system" means a security screening system that delivers an effective radiation dose equal to or less than 0.25 μ Sv (25 μ rem) per screening.

(9) "Jail" means any holding, detention, special detention, or correctional facility as defined in RCW 70.48.020.

(10) "Limited-use security screening system" means a security screening system that is capable of delivering an effective dose greater than 0.25 μ Sv (25 μ rem) per screening, but must not exceed an effective dose of 10 μ Sv (1 mrem) per screening.

(11) "Minor" means an individual less than 18 years of age.

(12) "Operator" means a trained employee associated with the operation of the security screening system whose responsibilities include at least one of the following:

- (a) Initiating or stopping a scan;
- (b) Verifying the security screening system is operating correctly;
- (c) Providing information and instructions to screened individuals; or
- (d) Controlling access to the radiation screening zone.

(13) "Primary beam" means the beam of radiation emanating from the security screening system intended to reach the individual being scanned. This excludes scattered radiation and radiation transmitted through shielding.

(14) "Qualified expert" means an individual who has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the department the knowledge, training, and experience to measure ionizing radiation, to evaluate safety techniques, and to advise regarding radiation protection needs. The department reserves the right to recognize the qualifications of an individual in specific areas of radiation protection.

(15) "Radiation screening zone" means the general area established for the purpose of limiting or controlling access to the area where screening will be performed.

(16) "Registrant" means any person who is registered by the department or is legally obligated to register with the department in accordance with these rules and the act.

(17) "Safety interlock" means a device that is intended to automatically prevent or interrupt the radiation hazard whenever safety is compromised by access to the interior of the system, unauthorized access to a radiation area, or by an operational malfunction.

(18) "Scan" means one individual exposure or programmed set of exposures necessary to render an image for evaluation.

(19) "Screening" means the sum of radiation exposures or scans necessary to image objects concealed on all sides of the body as intended by the system design under normal conditions. A screening consists of one scan. If more than one scan needs to be performed to determine if the individual is concealing contraband, all additional scans are considered repeat screenings.

(20) "Security screening system" means a screening system that intentionally exposes an individual to ionizing radiation for the purpose of detecting contraband hidden in an individual's body or under clothing. Security screening systems must use transmission X-ray.

(21) "Shutter" means a device attached to the tube housing assembly which can totally intercept the entire cross sectional area of the useful beam and which has a lead equivalency at least that of the tube housing assembly.

(22) "Technique factors" means the X-ray settings, including:

- (a) The peak kilovoltage applied to the X-ray tube;
- (b) The electric current passing through the X-ray tube; and
- (c) The scan time.

(23) "Transmission X-ray" means a security screening system that uses conventional means of radiographic imaging, in which X-rays or gamma rays pass through an individual to create shadow-grams of enclosed contraband based on their radiation attenuating properties. For the purposes of this chapter, any transmission X-ray system for which at least one dimension of the scan area is greater than 50 cm is considered a security screening system.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 70.388.040. WSR 25-01-051, s 246-230-010, filed 12/11/24, effective 1/11/25.]