

**WAC 388-447-0060 Progressive evaluation process step IV—How does the department determine the severity of multiple impairments?**

(1) If you have more than one impairment, we determine the overall severity rating by deciding if your impairments have a combined effect on your ability to be gainfully employed.

(2) When you have two or more diagnosed impairments that limit work activities, we assign an overall severity rating as follows:

| <b>Condition</b>   | <b>Severity Rating</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| (a) All impairments are mild and there is no cumulative effect on basic work activities.   | Mild 2                 |
| (b) All impairments are mild and there is a significant cumulative effect on one or more basic work activities.                  | Moderate 3             |
| (c) Two or more impairments are of moderate severity and there is a very significant cumulative effect on basic work activities. | Marked 4               |
| (d) Two or more impairments are of marked severity.  | Severe 5               |

(3) We deny incapacity at this step when the overall severity rating is two.

(4) We approve incapacity at this step when the overall severity rating is five.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.040.055 [74.04.055], 74.04.057, 74.08.090, and 2018 c 48. WSR 18-18-007, § 388-447-0060, filed 8/23/18, effective 9/23/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.005, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, 74.08A.100, 74.04.770, 74.08.025, 74.62.030, and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 10. WSR 13-24-044, § 388-447-0060, filed 11/26/13, effective 1/1/14.]