

Washington State Health Insurance Pool

**POLICY ON ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING
THE ANNUAL WSHIP POLICY AGENDA**

1. The WSHIP Board finds it in the best interest of its stakeholders, and of the WSHIP program itself, to inform and educate others regarding the operation and known needs of the Pool and the stakeholders that it serves.
2. The WSHIP Board will annually identify issues that are important to address with respect to the needs of WSHIP's stakeholders and the efficient operation of WSHIP. That set of issues, to be known as the Board's Policy Agenda, will be developed in the fall of the year in order to set priorities for the coming year.
3. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the development and oversight of the Policy Agenda, with input from the entire Board and from the Executive Director.

Approval of Policy Agenda:

4. The full Board will review and approve the Executive Committee's Policy Agenda recommendations at a regular or special meeting.
5. If new Policy Agenda topics are suggested during the year, they will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and, if that Committee recommends their prompt addition to the Policy Agenda, brought to the full board for discussion and approval.
6. Approval of recommended Policy Agenda topics and actions pertaining to matters that are clearly within the statutory authority of the WSHIP Board as administrator of the Pool will require a simple majority affirmative vote of all Board members.
7. Approval of recommended Policy Agenda topics and actions that do not meet the definition in Paragraph 6 above shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Board members.

Direction and approval in between board meetings:

8. Advocacy efforts in support of Policy Agenda topics may require prompt response to developing legislation or proposed regulations, especially during the legislative session. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Board to direct and guide the Executive Director when responses to policy initiatives are necessary between meetings of the full board.

Who is authorized to advocate on behalf of WSHIP?

9. Effective advocacy requires consistency of message and delivery. Only the Executive Director or other persons designated by the Board or Executive Committee may represent WSHIP regarding the Board's Policy Agenda. Board members may be called upon by the Executive Director to testify or assist in advocating on behalf of WSHIP.