

WSDOT Northwest Region
Development Services, MS-240
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Requirements and Procedures for an Access Connection Permit to the State Highway

- You are required by RCW 47.50 Laws of Washington State, to have an approved permit prior to constructing an access connection to a State Highway. WAC 468-51 and 468-52 implement this policy.
- Applications may be obtained at the address listed above. Submitted applications must consist of the completed application form, a site plan, additional information as outlined on the back side of the application form, and the appropriate fee.
- In addition to the information as required on the application and its reverse side, please indicate if there are any contiguous parcels under the same ownership.
- Be sure to mark your proposed access connection location (flagging, stake, etc.) on site. In addition to marking the location, photographs submitted with the application would be helpful. The access connection application will be field reviewed.
- A performance bond or an assignment of escrow is required on all permits, with a minimum of \$1,000 as a starting base. The form for obtaining a bond or an assignment of escrow will be sent with the unsigned permits for signature. The amount of bond will be noted in the provisions of the permit.
- Permits must be signed and returned within 30 days or a second review and fee may be required.
- When the Grantee receives a signed permit, the Grantee will be required to contact the local WSDOT Maintenance office to establish a time for a pre-construction conference. Work on the approach may not be started until the Grantee receives a signed permit and has a pre-construction conference.
- Construction must begin within 90 days of the effective date of the permit. Construction shall be completed within 120 days of the issuance of the permit. If an extension is necessary, a written request to the Region office must be made or your permit may be nullified.
- When the access is complete, the Grantee must request a final inspection from the local WSDOT Maintenance office. If the access meets all requirements of the permit, then the local WSDOT Maintenance office will send a letter to the Region office to have the bond released. If the access is not installed correctly or is not totally completed as required, then the bond will not be released.
- The Grantee is responsible for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the access connection. Any future patching (pot holes), or drainage problems (culverts) are the responsibility of the owner and must be taken care of by the owner.

The following is for informational purposes: The state has implemented an access control classification system consisting of five classes. (This access control classification system does not include highways or portions thereof that have been established as limited access highways pursuant to chapter 47.52 RCW.) The classes are arranged from the most restrictive, class one to the least restrictive, class five. The following is a brief outline/summary of these classes for private direct access: (Refer to WAC 468-52 for actual classification details.)

Class 1

- Access shall not be permitted except when the property has no other reasonable access to the general street system.
- Access connection shall continue until such time that other reasonable access to the general street system becomes available and is permitted.
- The minimum distance to another public or private connection shall be 1,320 feet. *
- No more than one connection shall be provided to an individual parcel or to contiguous parcels under the same ownership.
- No additional access connections to the state highway shall be provided for newly created parcels resulting from property divisions. All access for such parcels shall be provided by internal road networks.

Class 2

- Access shall not be permitted except when the property has no other reasonable access to the general street system.
- Access connection shall continue until such time that other reasonable access to the general street system becomes available and is permitted.
- The minimum distance to another public or private connection shall be 660 feet. *
- No more than one connection shall be provided to an individual parcel or to contiguous parcels under the same ownership.
- No additional access connections to the state highway shall be provided for newly created parcels resulting from property divisions. All access for such parcels shall be provided by internal road networks.

Class 3

- The minimum distance to another public or private connection shall be 330 feet. *
- No more than one connection shall be provided to an individual parcel or to contiguous parcels under the same ownership.

Class 4

- The minimum distance to another public or private connection shall be 250 feet. *
- No more than one connection shall be provided to an individual parcel or to contiguous parcels under the same ownership.

Class 5

- The minimum distance to another public or private connection shall be 125 feet. *
- No more than one connection shall be provided to an individual parcel or to contiguous parcels under the same ownership.

(* A non-conforming connection permit may be issued for parcels whose conditions may preclude issuance of a conforming permit.)