

ESA Program Descriptions

SFY

2019

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) provides a wide range of services through a variety of programs. This chapter provides a brief description of ESA programs, as well as the legal authorization for those programs, funding sources, populations served, eligibility to participate, services provided, and linkages to other programs.

ESA
Program
Briefing
Book

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ESA Programs

The Department of Social and Health Services transforms lives by empowering individuals and families to thrive. Although most clients of ESA do not receive a cash grant, they may rely on food assistance, work-related support services, assistance with child support, medical coverage, or child care subsidies. A family crisis or change in the economy, even a small one, can force these families into situations requiring assistance, whether it is the full support of a cash grant, help with child support, or temporary assistance to avoid losing housing. The following pages provide a brief description of ESA programs. In order to learn more about a particular program's caseload, client demographics, expenditures, and program details, please see the corresponding full-length chapter.

Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (AREN)

Brief Description

AREN provides a cash payment, in addition to a cash grant, to meet emergent housing or utility needs. Benefits may be authorized multiple times in the recipient’s lifetime, but the cumulative total cannot exceed \$750 in a 12-month period. Payments are issued directly to housing and utility vendors.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08.090](#), Rulemaking Authority Enforcement.

[RCW 74.04.050](#), Department to administer public assistance programs.

Funding Source

Federal & State: Mixture of TANF and TANF–MOE dollars.

Population Served

Pregnant individuals or families with an eligible minor child.

Eligibility

Families must:

1. Receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), State Family Assistance (SFA), or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA);
2. Have an emergency housing or utility need; and
3. Have a good reason for not having enough money to pay for housing or utility costs.

Services

Payments may be used to:

1. Prevent eviction or foreclosure;
2. Secure housing if homeless or domestic violence victim;
3. Secure or prevent shut-off of utilities related to health and safety; or
4. Repair damage to a home if it poses a health or safety risk.

Linkages

1. Community or charitable agencies that may help to meet the emergent need
2. Food banks
3. Housing shelters or low-income/emergency housing
4. Other public assistance programs

Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance, a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program, and help accessing federal disability benefits to low-income adults who are age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability criteria.

Legal Authorization

Cash assistance is authorized by [RCW 74.62.030](#).

Funding Source

100% General Fund-State (GF-S) cash benefits, which may be recovered from retroactive payment (interim assistance) when SSI eligibility is approved.

Population Served

Adults 18 years of age or older who are aged, blind, or determined likely to meet federal SSI disability criteria pending a final administrative determination of disability by the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.
2. Recipients must be age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet federal SSI disability criteria based on a verified physical, mental, or intellectual impairment.
3. Recipients must follow through with the SSI application and appeal process as a condition of eligibility.
4. A person is ineligible for ABD when disabled primarily due to a substance use disorder. People who have a substance use disorder

in addition to a separate mental or physical impairment may qualify for ABD.

5. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified chemical dependency professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility.

Services

1. Cash assistance.
2. Referral to the Department of Commerce administered HEN program.
3. SSI Facilitation services by Social Service Specialists trained to assist with the SSI disability application and appeal process.
4. Case management and referral services.

Linkages

1. Health Care Authority Foundational Community Supports (Supported Employment and Supportive Housing)
2. Behavioral Health Organizations
3. Department of Commerce HEN providers
4. Department of Corrections (Transitional Offender Assistance Program)
5. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
6. Disability Determination Services
7. Social Security Administration
8. Local resources (such as food banks and housing, emergency shelters, etc.)
9. Home and Community Services (e.g. long-term or residential care facilities)
10. Naturalization assistance services
11. Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
12. Private-practice attorneys represent ABD recipients in challenging denial of disability,

after the reconsideration stage of the SSI
application process

Basic Food - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Brief Description

The SNAP program, formerly known as Food Stamps, provides food assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families.

Legal Authorization

Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, Public Law 110-246 (7 USC 2011-2036).

Funding Source

SNAP food benefits provided to customers are financed with 100% federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). The state's administrative cost for the program is funded by both federal and state funds.

Population Served

Households with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The federal government sets the income and resources standards. The income standards are updated on October 1 of each year based on the federal poverty level in effect at the time.

Eligibility

1. Must meet USDA Food and Nutrition Services criteria for financial need.
2. Eligible assistance unit (AU) members must:
 - a. Be U.S. citizens or nationals or qualified aliens meeting certain criteria.
 - b. Be residents of Washington State.
 - c. Meet certain eligibility criteria if on strike.
3. An AU is categorically eligible when:
 - a. All members receive Social Security Supplemental Security Income;
 - b. All members receive Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) assistance;
 - c. The household has gross income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; or
 - d. All members receive or are authorized to receive payments or services from:
 - i. TANF cash assistance.
 - ii. State family assistance.
 - iii. Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) for four months after initial DCA issuance.
4. Elderly persons or persons with disabilities only need to meet the net income standard to be entitled to medical deductions.
5. Persons with disabilities have the value of one vehicle exempted entirely when used for medical transportation.
6. Certain students of higher education, able-bodied adults without dependents, and assistance units participating in the food distribution program on or near Indian reservations are not eligible for benefits.
7. The following persons are ineligible for food assistance and must have some of their income and resources considered available to the remaining eligible assistance unit members:
 - a. Fugitive felons including probation and parole violators.
 - b. Persons failing to attest to citizenship or alien status.
 - c. Persons disqualified for (i) intentional program violation, (ii) failure to provide a Social Security Number, (iii) not participating in work requirements, (iv) or if an ineligible alien.

Services

Electronic food benefits can be used at participating grocery stores.

3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support

Linkages

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs

Effective 10-1-2018				
Column A Number of eligible AU members	Column B Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Column C Maximum Net Monthly Income	Column D Maximum Allotment	Column E 165% of the Poverty Level ¹
1	\$1,316	\$ 1,012	\$192	\$1,670
2	1,784	1,372	353	2,264
3	2,252	1,732	505	2,858
4	2,720	2,092	642	3,452
5	3,188	2,452	762	4,046
6	3,656	2,812	914	4,640
7	4,124	3,172	1,011	5,234
8	4,592	3,532	1,155	5,828
9	5,060	3,892	1,299	6,422
10	5,528	4,252	1,443	7,016
Each Additional Member	+\$468	+\$360	+\$144	+\$594

Exceptions:

1. If the Assistance Unit (AU) is categorically eligible under [WAC 388-414-0001](#), it does

not have to meet the gross or net income standards in columns B and C. We do

¹ The 165% FPL standard applies to persons who are both elderly and disabled, and cannot cook their own meals. These persons can be in a separate assistance unit if the other people who would normally be in the AU have combined income at or under the 165% standard. The person's spouse must always be in the AU if living with the client.

budget the AU's income to decide the amount of Basic Food the AU will receive.

2. If the AU includes a member who is 60 years of age or older or has a disability, income must be at or below the limit in column C only.
3. If the applicant is 60 years of age or older and cannot buy and cook their own meals

because of a permanent disability, we use column E to decide if they can be a separate AU.

4. If the AU has zero income, benefits are the maximum allotment in Column D based on the number of eligible members in the AU.

Basic Food - Washington Combined Application Program (WASHCAP)

Brief Description

A simplified food benefits program for certain SSI recipients that delivers food benefits through an automated interface between Social Security Administration (SSA) and DSHS. A client's application for SSI also acts as the application for food benefits. Clients who receive WASHCAP are certified for up to 36 months.

Legal Authorization

7 CFR 273.23 and 7 CFR 273.2 (b),(c), and (k) and 7 CFR 273.9 (d) and 7 CFR 273.10(d) and (e).

Sections 5(e) and 8(c) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

RCW [74.04.050](#), [74.04.055](#), [74.04.057](#), [74.04.500](#), [74.04.510](#), [74.08.090](#)

Funding Source

100% Federal - United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Population Served

SSI recipients who :

1. Are at least 18 years old; and
2. Live alone or are considered a single household by the Social Security Administration; or
3. Live with others but buy and cook food separately; and
4. Do not have earned income when they apply for SSI.

Eligibility

Must meet criteria listed in "Population Served" above. Clients are ineligible if they:

1. Live in an institution;
2. Are under age 18;
3. Live with their spouse;
4. Are under age 22 and live with their parents who receive Basic Food benefits;
5. Begin working after they are approved for WASHCAP and have earned income for more than three consecutive months;
6. Live with others and do not buy and cook food separately; or
7. Are ineligible for Basic Food under WAC 388-400-0040.

Services

WASHCAP clients receive monthly food benefits via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to their Washington EBT Quest card. They also receive Categorically Eligible medical assistance as SSI recipients. This client population is served by the WASHCAP Central Unit within the Community Services Division (CSD).

Linkages

1. Social Security Administration
2. Nutrition education programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Community medical centers
6. Senior outreach
7. Charitable agencies

Basic Food - Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP)

Brief Description

Provides food assistance for legal immigrants who are not eligible for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.120](#) Immigrants-food assistance.

Funding Source

100% State.

Population Served

Legal immigrants ineligible for the federal SNAP program under federal welfare reform enacted in August 1996.

Eligibility

The eligibility rules for FAP are the same as the rules for the federal SNAP program, except for citizenship and immigrant status requirements.

Households can receive a mix of FAP and SNAP benefits depending on the citizenship or alien status of each person in the home.

Services

Same as for federal SNAP:

Electronic food benefits can be used at participating grocery stores.

The value of the benefit is determined by size of household and net income.

Linkages

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support

Transitional Food Assistance (TFA)

Brief Description

Provides stable food benefits to families leaving the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Tribal TANF programs while receiving Basic Food. TFA is meant to help meet a family's nutritional needs for five months as they transition into self-sufficiency.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.010](#) Transitional food assistance

Funding Source

A mix of SNAP and FAP benefits.

FAP is 100% State funded.

SNAP benefits provided to customers are financed with 100% federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). The state's administrative cost for the program is funded by both federal and state funds.

Population Served

Former TANF and Tribal TANF program recipients who were simultaneously receiving Basic Food benefits.

Eligibility

Households are eligible for up to five consecutive months of TFA benefits if they meet all the following eligibility requirements:

1. The family was receiving Basic Food when determined no longer eligible for TANF;
2. After the family stops receiving TANF, no other member of the Basic Food assistance unit continues to receive TANF;
3. The family did not move out of Washington State.
4. The family was not in sanction status when TANF ended.
5. When the TANF grant ended, the Basic Food assistance unit (AU) did not become ineligible because:
 - a. They were applying for recertification of their Basic Food benefits and refused to cooperate with the application process; or
 - b. All members were ineligible for Basic Food for the reasons stated in [WAC 388-489-0025\(3\)](#).
6. There is no limit to the number of times a family may leave TANF and receive transitional food assistance.

Services

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Electronic food benefits can be used at participating grocery stores.
2. The TFA benefit amount is based on the regular monthly benefit allotment issued to the Basic Food AU for the last month the AU received TANF. The last TANF grant payment will not count when the transitional food assistance benefit amount is calculated. For example:
 - a. If the Basic Food assistance unit's only income was TANF, the transitional food assistance benefit will be the amount the household would have received if it had no income.
 - b. If the Basic Food benefit was calculated using TANF plus income from another source, only the income from the other source is counted when calculating the transitional food assistance amount.
3. TFA benefits are adjusted if:
 - a. An assistance unit member is found eligible to receive Basic Food in another

assistance unit. Benefits are adjusted by:

- i. Reducing the assistance unit size by the number of persons who left the assistance unit; and
 - ii. Removing the income and expenses clearly belonging to the persons who left the assistance unit.
- b. A change to the maximum allotment for Basic Food under [WAC 388-478-0060](#) results in an increase in benefits for Basic Food assistance units.
- c. There is an overpayment of Basic Food benefits and adjustments are deducted from the monthly benefits to repay the overpayment as required in [WAC 388-410-0033](#). This includes:

- i. Starting a new monthly deduction;
- ii. Changing the amount of the monthly deduction; and
- iii. Ending the monthly deduction when the amount owed is paid off.

Linkages

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support

Basic Food Employment and Training Program (BFET)

Brief Description

The Washington State Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program provides job search, job search training, job search, educational services and skills training to federally funded Basic Food recipients who are not recipients of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

Legal Authorization

Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, Public Law 110-246. The Basic Food Program is Washington State's version of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Funding Source

DSHS program administrative structure is funded using 100% federal funds. Contracted providers receive 50% federal funds and use non-federal funds as match.

Population Served

Provided on a voluntary basis to Basic Food recipients throughout the state who are over the age of 16 and seek employment readiness services.

Eligibility

1. All federally funded Basic Food program eligible applicants or recipients who are not receiving TANF.
2. Individuals receiving benefits under the state-funded Food Assistance Program (FAP) for SNAP-ineligible, legal immigrants are *not* eligible for BFET.

Services

Employment and training services include:

1. Job search.
2. Job readiness training.
3. Basic skills, English as a Second Language (ESL), or vocational education.
4. Referral to job openings.
5. Support services.
6. Job retention services.
7. Life Skills.

Linkages

Same as those for the TANF program. In addition, specified contractors (community-based organizations) also provide job search activities, support services, basic education and vocational training services.

Resources to Initiate Successful Employment (RISE) Pilot

Brief Description

RISE is a three year, \$22 million dollar pilot project that aims to enhance the current Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) program by adding comprehensive case management, Strategies for Success (SFS), and Work-Based Learning to targeted populations.

The RISE pilot ended on December 31, 2018.

Legal Authorization

Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014, Public Law 113-79.

Funding Source

100% Federal Funds from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

Population Served

RISE participants are comprised of randomly selected work-registrants in King, Pierce, Spokane, and Yakima counties.

Eligibility

1. All randomly selected work-registrants who meet one or more of the following:
 - a. Homeless;

- b. Veteran;
- c. Limited English Proficiency (LEP);
- d. Long term unemployed;
- e. Non-Custodial Parents (NCPs) owing arrears (back child support).

Services

RISE participants will receive:

1. Soft skills training;
2. Vocational case management/coaching;
3. Career navigation;
4. Service coordination;
5. Navigation of financial and academic resources;
6. Job readiness;
7. Job search;
8. Retention and advancement services; and
9. Paid work experience.

Linkages

Same as those for the TANF program. In addition, specified contractors (community-based organizations) in the counties named above also provide job search activities, support services, basic education, and vocational training services.

Child Support Services

Brief Description

Provides services for the establishment of paternity and/or the establishment, modification and enforcement of child support orders (financial and medical) to help families become or remain self-sufficient.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 608-669b and 45 CFR Volume 2, Chapter III, §§300-399); Chapters 26.23 and [RCW 74.20A](#); [WAC 388-14A](#).

Funding Source

Funded by federal matching funds, state funds, and additional annual federal performance incentive award funding. The basic federal matching rate is 66%.

Source of IV-D funds for SFY 2018:

State Funds: \$43.7 million (29%).

Federal Matching Funds: \$104.5 million (71%).

Population Served

1. Current Assistance: Individuals who are currently receiving benefits under Title IV-A (TANF) or Title IV-E (Foster Care).
2. Former Assistance: Individuals who, in the past, received benefits under Title IV-A (TANF or AFDC) or under Title IV-E (Foster Care).
3. Never Assistance: Individuals who have never received benefits under Title IV-A (TANF or AFDC) or under Title IV-E (Foster Care) and have made application for Title IV-D services. This population may also include individuals who either currently receive or formerly received state-funded

services such as state-only medical, foster care, or child care.

Eligibility

Automatic as a condition of receiving a TANF grant; continuation of services after a TANF grant ends; intergovernmental referral; or upon application for non-assistance services.

Services

1. Establishment or modification of administrative child support orders.
2. Enforcement or modification/adjustment of court orders for child support.
3. Enforcement of court orders for spousal maintenance or post-secondary education support.
4. Responsible parent locate services.
5. Review of support orders for modification or adjustment.
6. Enforcement of medical support obligations, including reimbursement of uninsured medical costs.
7. Free genetic testing to assist parents interested in establishment of paternity by means of an Acknowledgment of Paternity.
8. "Payment Services Only" services, under which DCS receives, records, distributes, and disburses payments.
9. Electronic funds transfer/electronic data interchange for employers.
10. Electronic funds transfer and other payment options for noncustodial parents.
11. Electronic funds transfer and other disbursement options for custodial parents.
12. Tribal support services.
13. Employer information and assistance.

14. Cooperation with the IV-D agencies of other governments, including other states, other countries and Indian tribes.
 15. Referral for welfare to work services in conjunction with other parts of DSHS, the employment security department (ESD), and private contractors.
 16. Referral to the prosecuting attorney for establishment of paternity or parentage.
 17. Referral to the prosecuting attorney for contempt proceedings.
 18. Other services allowed by the state plan and applicable state and federal law.
-
- ### Linkages
1. TANF/WorkFirst
 2. Courts
 3. Prosecuting Attorneys
 4. Community Services Offices (CSOs)
 5. Office of Administrative Hearings
 6. DSHS Children's Administration
 7. DSHS Division of Finance and Financial Recovery
 8. Washington State Support Registry
 9. Department of Early Learning
 10. DSHS Office of Indian Policy
 11. Department of Health
 12. Department of Corrections
 13. Employment Security Department
 14. Department of Labor and Industries
 15. Department of Revenue
 16. Department of Licensing
 17. Department of Veterans Affairs
 18. Internal Revenue Service
 19. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
 20. U.S. Department of Justice
 21. U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services
 22. U.S. Department of Defense
 23. Hospitals
 24. Community-based organizations

Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) and Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP²)

Brief Description

Provides program benefits to alleviate emergent conditions resulting from insufficient income and resources to provide for food, shelter, clothing, medical care, or other necessary items. Benefits may be authorized for 30 consecutive days only in any consecutive 12-month period.

Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) is a cash program made available when a disaster is declared by the Governor. It is paid through the Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) and is designed to provide cash assistance to individuals and families who face an emergency and do not have the money to meet their basic needs.³

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.04.660](#), Family Emergency Assistance Program §301(6), Chapter 181, Laws of 2008 (SB 6950).

Funding Source

100% State – Non-MOE.

Population Served

Pregnant individuals or families with dependent children who face an emergency and do not have the money to meet their basic needs, including families whose TANF cash assistance has been terminated for Non-Compliance Sanction (NCS) and those who have already received 60 months of TANF and do not qualify for a Time Limit Extension.

In the event of a disaster, declared by the Governor: Individuals or families (with or without children) living in the affected area who are not eligible for TANF, SFA, PWA, RCA, or ABD and otherwise meet eligibility requirements.

Eligibility

1. Must be residents of Washington.
2. Must be in emergent need and have no resources to meet that need.
3. Family income must be less than 90% of the TANF payment standard for a household with shelter cost.
4. Payment is limited to payment maximums for individual emergent need items or the TANF payment standard for a household with shelter cost, whichever is lower.

Services

Provides for specific emergent needs such as food, shelter, clothing, minor medical care, utilities, household maintenance, job-related transportation or clothing, and transportation for a minor, not in foster care, to the home of a relative or approved caregiver.

Linkages

1. Department of Commerce
2. Low-income emergency housing
3. Food banks
4. Charitable agencies
5. Community medical centers
6. Other public assistance programs

² DCAP is paid through CEAP.

³ Part of the funding for the CEAP programs was transferred to the Department of Commerce (formerly the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development) in SFY 2000.

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)

Brief Description

Provides an emergency cash benefit of \$1,250, limited to a 30-day period every 12 months, to families that meet eligibility criteria for TANF⁴ or SFA but do not need ongoing monthly cash assistance.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.210](#), Diversion Program – Emergency Assistance.

Funding Source

100% State – TANF MOE.

Population Served

Low-income families with temporary emergent needs who are not likely to need continued assistance if those needs are met.

Eligibility

1. Must meet TANF eligibility criteria but not be receiving TANF.
2. Cannot have received DCA within the last 12 months.
3. Cannot have an adult in the family who is ineligible for cash assistance for any reason other than one adult receiving SSI in a two-adult family.

4. Cannot be in WorkFirst noncompliance or child support non-cooperation status.
5. If the family goes on TANF within 12 months of receiving DCA, a prorated amount of the DCA payment must be repaid to the state by monthly deductions equal to 5% of the cash grant.
6. Benefits may be authorized for only 30 days in a 12 consecutive month period.
7. The total of all payments in a 30-day period is limited to \$1,250.

Services

1. Payments to cover emergent needs for shelter, transportation, child care, food, medical care, and employment-related expenses.
2. Usually paid directly to vendors.

Linkages

1. Employment
2. Child care
3. Child support services
4. Medical assistance
5. Food assistance
6. Other services to assist low-income families

⁴ See TANF/SFA program description on Pages 28-32.

Domestic Violence Victim Services

Brief Description

Provides statewide services through local community organizations to help people who are hurt or harmed by domestic violence; provides education and information on domestic violence to local communities.

Legal Authorization

Authorized by Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) 42 U.S.C. 10404, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 42 U.S.C. 10603, RCW 70.123 Shelters for Victims of Domestic Violence, WAC 388-61A Domestic Violence Victim Services and Prevention Efforts.

Funding Source

Blended federal and state funding sources and an interlocal agreement with the Department of Commerce (VOCA funds).

Population Served

Victims of domestic violence and their dependent children; community groups and individuals interested in learning about domestic violence, available services and prevention.

Eligibility

People who have been hurt or harmed by domestic violence (RCW 70.123.020) are eligible for services provided through contracts with community-based and local government agencies.

Services

Services provided through contracts with community-based and local government agencies include:

Safety planning, crisis intervention and crisis helplines, emergency shelter, individual advocacy, legal advocacy, support groups, child care assistance during advocacy and support group sessions, age appropriate supportive services and resources for children and youth residing in emergency shelter, emergency transportation assistance, information and referral, community education and prevention activities.

Linkages

1. Community-based domestic violence agencies
2. Culturally specific community-based organizations
3. Domestic violence and crime victims coalitions
4. Local law enforcement and prosecution agencies
5. Courts of various jurisdictions
6. Public assistance programs and organizations providing community resources, such as food banks and utility assistance agencies
7. Homelessness services and housing assistance agencies
8. Department of Children, Youth and Families: Child Protective Services
9. Civil legal aid providers
10. Behavioral health treatment providers
11. Local schools
12. Healthcare providers

Domestic Violence Intervention Treatment Certification (DVIT)

Brief Description

The DVIT program conducts certification for local community organizations and treatment professionals that provide domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The DVIT program monitors and conducts investigations of certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs to determine compliance with program standards (WAC 388-60B).

Legal Authorization

RCW 26.50.150: Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programs and WAC 388-60B: Domestic Violence Perpetrator Treatment Program Standards.

Funding Source

The state's administrative cost for the program is funded by state funds.

Population Served

The DVIT Program serves certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs and stakeholders who work directly with perpetrator treatment programs.

Eligibility

To obtain initial certification and to re-certify domestic violence perpetrator treatment

programs must submit policies and procedures; letters of support from stakeholders; identify evidence-based and promising practices; and adhere to staffing, continuing education, facility, and quality management standards.

Services

The department certifies and re-certifies (every two years) domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs, conducts on-site reviews and investigations of certified programs, and delivers technical assistance, consultation, and trainings for certified programs and stakeholders.

Linkages

1. Domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs
2. Courts of various jurisdictions
3. Probation departments
4. The Department of Children, Youth and Families: Child Protective Services
5. Guardians ad litem
6. Court appointed special advocates
7. Domestic violence victim services programs
8. The Department of Corrections
9. Local law enforcement agencies

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program

Brief Description

Provides a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program, which offers potential access to housing supports and essential needs items (e.g., bus passes and personal care items). Eligibility for HEN assistance is determined by the Department of Commerce through a network of local grantees.

Legal Authorization

Authorized by [RCW 74.04.805](#).

Funding Source

Incapacity examinations used by the Department to determine HEN Referral eligibility are 100% General Fund-State (GF-S).

Population Served

Adults 18-64 years of age who are unable to work for at least 90 days due to a mental incapacity, physical incapacity, or substance use disorder.

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.

2. Recipients must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to a mental incapacity, physical incapacity, or substance use disorder.
3. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified chemical dependency professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility.

Services

1. Referral to the HEN program (administered by the Department of Commerce).
2. Case management and referral services.

Linkages

1. Department of Commerce HEN providers
2. Health Care Authority Foundational Community Supports (Supported Employment and Supportive Housing)
3. Behavioral Health Organizations
4. Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
5. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
6. Local resources (such as food banks, emergency shelter, housing, etc.)

¹ During the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2069, which created the HEN Referral program effective January 1, 2014. Up until that point, potential HEN eligibility was linked to the Medical Care Services (MCS) program.

Medical Assistance Programs

Brief Description

Includes state and federally funded medical assistance programs providing health care coverage to certain refugees, Medicare recipients, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, adults who are age 65 or older, blind or disabled, and legally present recipients of Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance and Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral programs who are ineligible for Medicaid due to their immigration status.

Legal Authorization

Title XIX Social Security Act.

Title IV Immigration & Nationality Act.

[RCW 74.09](#) Medical care.

Funding Source

Funded by General State funds and Title 19 federal medical funds.

Population Served

Low-income persons with disabilities, older adults, refugees, and aged federally qualified aliens.

Eligibility

In general, most recipients are low-income and have no other medical coverage available.

Eligibility requirements for specific programs vary based on program relatability, such as:

1. Disability.

2. Emergency medical for aged immigrants who would qualify for full-scope Medicaid except for their alien status.
3. Aged, blind, and disabled persons who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or who are eligible to receive SSI.
4. Disabled persons who are working and who do not receive SSI.
5. Refugees who do not qualify for Medicaid assistance.
6. Low-income Medicare beneficiaries.
7. Recipients of ABD cash assistance or HEN Referral.

Services

1. Aged Alien Emergency Medical.
2. SSI Medicaid.
3. SSI-Related Medicaid.
4. Medicare Savings Programs.
5. Refugee Medical Assistance.
6. Medical Care Services.

Linkages

1. DSHS Online Services Application
2. Dental coverage
3. Washington HealthPlanFinder
4. Children and family services
5. Community medical centers
6. Senior outreach
7. Maternity and Infants

Office of Financial Recovery (OFR)

Brief Description

The Office of Financial Recovery (OFR) is the non-child support collection arm of the Department of Social and Health Services, the Department of Early Learning (DEL), and for some functions, the Health Care Authority (HCA). Department programs and partners use recovered funds to decrease poverty, increase accountability, improve safety and health status, and increase educational and employment success to support people and communities in reaching their potential. OFR manages the following general programs that recover revenues, collect overpayments and/or bill and collect fees: developmental disabilities, vendor overpayment recovery, mental health, supplemental security income interim assistance recovery, estate recovery, public assistance overpayment recovery, food assistance overpayment recovery, medical premiums, juvenile rehabilitation, and DEL and Adult and Long-Term Support Administration fees.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 43.20B](#)

Funding Source

Mixed; State and Federal

Population Served

Department agencies and programs, the Department of Early Learning and the Health Care Authority.

Eligibility

OFR does not provide services to individuals.

Services

1. Billing services.
2. Accounting and reconciliation of debts owed to the Department and partners.
3. Debt establishment.
4. Debt enforcement.

Linkages

1. Health Care Authority
2. All DSHS Administrations
3. Department of Labor and Industries
4. U.S. Department of Treasury
5. Social Security Administration
6. Private Insurance Companies
7. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR)

Brief Description

Payments to meet a need beyond the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter, which are necessary to enable a person to continue living independently.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08.283](#).

Funding Source

100% General Fund-State.

Population Served

Aged, blind or disabled clients, pregnant individuals, refugees, and families.

Eligibility

A person must be receiving cash benefits from one of the following programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), including Tribal TANF; State Family Assistance (SFA);

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA); Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA); Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD); or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). A Social Services worker must also determine that the person has an essential need for an item or service in order to live independently.

Services

Cash payments for restaurant or home-delivered meals, food for service animals, basic telephone service, or laundry.

Linkages

1. Community charitable or social services agencies
2. Home and Community Services Offices within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA)

Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA)

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance to low-income pregnant individuals who are ineligible for TANF/SFA for a reason other than a failure to cooperate with TANF program rules.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.62.030.](#)

Funding Source

100% General Fund - State.

Population Served

Pregnant individuals who are ineligible for TANF/SFA due to the 60-month time limit, permanent disqualification, or another reason other than failure to cooperate with a program rule or requirement.

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.
2. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified chemical dependency professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility

Services

1. Cash assistance
2. Case management
3. Referral services

Linkages

1. Local resources (such as low-income housing and emergency shelter providers, and food banks)Children and family services
2. Community medical centers
3. Charitable organizations

Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance (RCA/RMA)

Brief Description

Provides up to 8 months of cash assistance for newly arrived single and married adults who are ineligible for TANF. Provides medical assistance for newly arrived refugees who are ineligible for MAGI Medicaid.

Legal Authorization

45 CFR §400.45 – 400.69 and §400.93 – 400.107, Refugee Act of 1980, Public Law 96-212; the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003 (TVPRA), Pub. L. No. 108-193; and the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-118.

Funding Source

100% Federal

Population Served

1. People who have recently resettled in Washington state as refugees. Refugees are authorized by the federal government to immigrate to the U.S., because they are unwilling or unable to return to their country of nationality due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
2. Individuals whose immigration status allows them access to refugee benefits under federal law.

Eligibility

1. People with the following U.S. immigration status: refugee, asylee, Cubans/Haitian entrant, Amerasian, victims of human trafficking and their eligible family

members, and Iraqi/Afghani Special Immigrants (SIV).

2. Applicants must meet the financial need criteria and be ineligible for TANF, because they are without dependent children
3. Currently, eligibility for refugees expires eight months after the date of their arrival in the United States. For asylees, victims of human trafficking, and Iraqis or Afghans who do not become Special Immigrants until after they enter the U.S., eligibility expires eight months after the date their status is granted.
4. Unless exempt, adults must register for employment and language services.
5. Refugees must also provide the name of the refugee resettlement agency which helped to bring them into the U.S.

Services

1. Cash assistance for food, clothing, and shelter.
2. Medical assistance.

Linkages

1. Refugee resettlement agencies
2. Ethnic community-based organizations
3. Community employment providers
4. State Colleges
5. Low-income housing providers
6. Food banks
7. Community medical centers
8. Charitable agencies Workforce development councils
9. Public health departments
10. Other local agencies

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)

Brief Description

Provides statewide services through local community partners to help people who are refugees and immigrants achieve economic stability and integration into Washington communities.

Legal Authorization

Refugee Act of 1980, Public Law 96-212; 45 CFR Part 400, [RCW 74.08A](#).

Funding Source

Blended federal and state funding sources, from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), TANF and SNAP E&T.

Population Served

Refugees, humanitarian entrants, and immigrants lawfully residing in the U.S.

Eligibility

1. People who have a following U.S. immigration status: refugee, asylee, Cubans/Haitian entrant, Amerasian, victims of human trafficking and their eligible family members, and Iraqi/Afghani Special Immigrants (SIV) and their eligible family members who are in the U.S. five years or less.
2. Legal immigrants who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and on TANF/SFA or are eligible for BFET.
3. All lawful permanent residents who are eligible to become U.S. citizens and are receiving public assistance.
4. Refugee minors under age 18 who are unaccompanied refugees, entrants, asylees or victims of trafficking.

Services

The following ORIA services are provided through contracts with community-based agencies, refugee resettlement agencies, ethnic community-based organizations, public health departments, community and technical colleges, and other state agencies:

1. Employment readiness and job placement services.
2. Job skills training.
3. Vocational English language training.
4. Refugee Health Screenings and health services.
5. Comprehensive case management services.
6. Self-sufficiency education workshops.
7. Immigration assistance.
8. Services for Older Refugees
9. Refugee children and youth programming.
10. Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) foster care services.
11. Mental health services.
12. Naturalization services.

Linkages

1. Community-based employment providers
2. Ethnic community-based organizations
3. Refugee resettlement agencies
4. Public health departments.
5. Community and technical colleges
6. Community-based organizations
7. School Districts
8. Area Agencies on Aging
9. Local employers
10. Employment Security Department
11. Workforce training councils
12. Local government agencies

13. Housing Authorities

14. Other organizations providing community resources, such as food banks and utility assistance agencies

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance to parents/caregivers with children and pregnant individuals to bolster their ability to meet their foundational needs. Persons who are caring for a relative's child, are legal guardians or who are acting in the place of a parent, are also able to apply for TANF benefits on behalf of these children.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 602-619), as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, Public Law 104-193; the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, Public Law 105-33; and the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, Public Law 109-171; and [RCW 74.04](#) (General Provisions Administration), [RCW 74.08](#) (Eligibility Generally—Standards of Assistance), [RCW 74.08A](#) (Washington WorkFirst/TANF), and [RCW 74.12](#) (TANF), as amended by the Washington Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act, ESHB-3901.

Funding Source

Funded by a federal block grant (Title IV-A of the Social Security Act) and a required Maintenance of Effort (MOE) expenditure of state funds.

Population Served

1. Children under age 18.
2. Children under age 19 attending high school or a GED program full-time.

3. Parents or needy caretaker relatives of these children.
4. Unmarried teen parents under age 18.
5. Pregnant individuals with no other children.

Eligibility

1. The family or assistance unit must include a child (or a pregnant individual with no other children) who is in financial need. The child of unmarried parents can be excluded from recipient assistance units at the option of the parents.
2. Family net monthly income may not exceed the payment standard plus authorized additional requirements. Under TANF, 50% of gross earnings are countable when determining eligibility and payment amount.
3. Families can own a home, household goods, and up to \$6,000 in countable assets. The first \$10,000 in equity value of a vehicle is exempt, and equity that exceeds this amount counts towards the \$6,000 asset limit⁵.
4. Teen parents must meet all TANF eligibility requirements, be living in an approved living situation, and must be attending high school. When not living in an approved living situation, the child of the teen is opened on TANF as a child-only case.
5. Families must be Washington state residents and not living in a public institution (with some exceptions).

⁵ Resource limits for all cash programs increased to \$6,000 and \$10,000 for vehicle equity, effective February 1, 2019. (See RCW 74.04.005)

6. All eligible family members must have a Social Security number or cooperate in obtaining one.
7. Families must assign rights to child support and cooperate with the DSHS Division of Child Support by identifying the non-custodial parent of the children and in obtaining child support with some exceptions.
8. If TANF or SFA hasn't been received within the past thirty days, and will be a mandatory WorkFirst participant once approved, WorkFirst orientation must be completed before the application is approved.
9. Adults and certain teens must participate in WorkFirst program work or work activities for up to 40 hours a week. There are a few exceptions to participation requirements. If a WorkFirst individual refuses to engage in work or work-related activities required by the state, the state will apply a penalty. The family's grant may be closed if the individual fails to attend a required home visit. For other individuals, the family's grant is reduced by one person's share or 40%, whichever is more, and may be terminated after two months of non-compliance.
10. There is no income or resources cap or work participation requirement for non-needy relatives and other non-parent adults applying for or receiving child-only TANF on behalf of needy children.
11. Benefits have a five-year time limit with some exceptions.

Services

1. Cash assistance in accordance with state payment standards for food, clothing, and shelter.
2. WorkFirst services.
3. Additional Requirements-Emergent Need (AREN) payments for special needs, such as obtaining housing or preventing eviction or utility shut-off.
4. SSI Facilitation, providing assistance with completing and monitoring an SSA Title II or Title XVI application.

State Family Assistance (SFA)

Brief Description

Provides state-funded cash assistance for legal immigrant families, students ages 19 to 20, and pregnant individuals who are ineligible to receive TANF.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.100](#), Immigrants-Eligibility

[RCW 74.12.035](#), Additional Eligibility Requirements (Students).

Funding Source

State: Mix of State and TANF MOE

Population Served

1. Immigrants ineligible for TANF because of federal citizenship and alien status eligibility requirements.
2. Children under age 21 attending school who are ineligible for TANF because they are over age 18 and not in school full-time.
3. Needy caretaker relatives of these children.
4. Pregnant individuals with no other children who are ineligible for TANF for a reason other than failure to cooperate with work requirements.
5. At the discretion of the department, some TANF eligible members may receive SFA rather than TANF if:
 - a. They are otherwise eligible for TANF as a parent; and
 - b. Another parent in your assistance unit is eligible for TANF or SFA; and you are pregnant or their assistance unit has a child less than twelve months of age

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet all other TANF eligibility criteria.
2. Immigrants must be:
 - a. Qualified aliens ineligible for TANF because of the five-year period of ineligibility; or
 - b. Lawfully present non-qualified aliens residing indefinitely in Washington state, and the Department of Homeland Security is not taking steps to enforce their departure.
3. Children ages 19 and 20 are in high school or a GED program full-time.
4. If SFA hasn't been received in the past thirty days, and will be a mandatory WorkFirst participant once approved, WorkFirst orientation must be completed before the application can be approved.
5. Like TANF, benefits have a five-year time limit with some exceptions.

Services

1. Cash assistance in accordance with state payment standards for food, clothing and shelter.
2. SFA recipients are eligible for WorkFirst services.
3. Additional Requirements for Emergent Need (AREN) payments for special needs, such as rent and utilities if eviction or shut-off notices have been issued.

Linkages

1. Low-income housing
2. Food banks
3. Children and family services
4. Community medical centers

5. Charitable organizations

WorkFirst (WF)

Brief Description

Provides support services and activities to TANF/SFA participants so they can find and keep jobs to move forward on a pathway to economic stability.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 602-619), as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, Public Law 104-193; the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, Public Law 105-33; and the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, Public Law 109-171; and [RCW 74.04](#) (General Provisions Administration), [RCW 74.08](#) (Eligibility Generally—Standards of Assistance), [RCW 74.08A](#) (Washington WorkFirst/TANF), and [RCW 74.12](#) (TANF), as amended by the Washington Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act, ESHB-3901.

Funding Source

Funded by a federal block grant (Title IV-A of the Social Security Act) and a required Maintenance of Effort (MOE) expenditure of state funds.

Population Served

Low-income families with dependent children and pregnant individuals.

Eligibility

TANF/SFA applicants and recipients.

Services

Case Management and Social Services may include the following:

1. Information about the WorkFirst program.

2. Comprehensive Evaluation to identify a participant's strengths, needs of their family, participation options, and best pathway to employment.
3. Referrals for services that a family may need including:
 - a. Family Planning for every individual.
 - b. Equal Access (EA) for individuals with a mental, neurological, physical or sensory impairment or other problems that prevent them from getting program benefits in the same way that an unimpaired person would get them.
 - c. Family violence.
 - d. Learning disabilities.
 - e. Substance use disorder.
 - f. Pregnant or parenting a child under 12 months.
4. Development of Individual Responsibility Plans (IRP).
5. Intensive social services for those with significant issues and needs.
6. Interdisciplinary case staffing.
7. Help for pregnant or parenting minors to find a suitable living arrangement and complete high school, which are both program requirements.
8. Support services that include, but are not limited to, funding for transportation, work clothing, professional fees, and testing.

Services While Working

1. Wage progression and job retention services (e.g., education and training).
2. Re-employment services following job loss.

Services While Looking for Work

1. Employment service supports (e.g., help with transportation).

2. Employment services (e.g., job leads, and access to resource rooms, phone banks, and job fairs).
3. Job preparation (e.g., employment competencies, work skills assessment, and employment workshops).
4. Part-time language training for limited-English proficient participants in job search.
5. Customized job skills (short-term training course that leads to an available job at an above-average wage).

Services While Preparing for Work

1. Short-term subsidized employment, Community Jobs, for participants who may benefit from additional support in securing permanent employment.
2. A changing mixture of subsidized or unpaid work, job search, treatment, education, training, and/or other services.

Linkages

1. Employment Security Department
2. Department of Commerce
3. State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

4. Workforce Development Councils, operating under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
5. Tribal TANF programs
 - a. Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe – Started October 1998
 - b. Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe – Started October 1998
 - c. Quinault Indian Nation – Started April 2001
 - d. Quileute Tribe – Started May 2001
 - e. Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation – Started November 2001
 - f. Spokane Tribe of Indians – Started March 2003
 - g. South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), comprised of four tribes: Nisqually, Skokomish, Squaxin Island, and Puyallup Tribes – Started September 2004
 - h. Tulalip Tribes – Started March 2005
 - i. Nooksack Tribe – Started May 2005
 - j. Lummi Nation - Started July 2007
 - k. Upper Skagit Tribe - Started July 2007
6. Community programs
7. RIA contracted refugee and immigrant community-based organizations
8. Local Planning Areas

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplemental Payment (SSP)

Brief Description

Provides a state-funded supplemental cash payment to some recipients of federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits in addition to their regular SSI payment.

Legal Authorization

Title XVI of the Social Security Act, 20 CFR 416.2095, and [RCW 74.04.600–RCW 74.04.640](#).

Funding Source

State: 100% state funds for the supplement.

Population Served

SSP is paid to the following populations:

1. Mandatory Income Level (MIL) – persons who received state aged, blind or disabled cash assistance in 1973 and were converted to receiving federal SSI in January 1974.
2. SSI recipients whose spouse is not eligible for SSI in their own right.
3. Developmentally disabled persons who meet Social Security disability criteria.
4. SSI recipients who are aged or blind.
5. Certain foster children receiving SSI.

Eligibility

1. Must be eligible for SSI as determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and meet the criteria described above.

2. Must meet resource limit of \$2,000 for an individual and \$3,000 for a married couple (not all resources are counted).

Services

1. The MIL SSP varies by individual and federal requirement.
2. The SSP for the aged, blind, or ineligible spouse is \$40 per month.
3. Developmentally disabled SSP varies by individual and client need.
4. Foster child SSP varies by individual need.
5. The SSP for an eligible person who is residing in a medical institution is \$27.28 per month.
6. A person eligible for SSI is automatically eligible for Categorically Needy medical coverage.

Linkages

1. Low-income housing
2. Senior citizens centers
3. Ongoing additional requirements
4. Food banks
5. Developmental disability programs
6. Congregate care facilities
7. Adult family homes
8. Nursing homes
9. Medical facilities
10. Mental health centers
11. Other community charitable and social service agencies

United States Repatriation Program

Brief Description

A federal program providing social services and a cash loan for food, housing, medical, or transportation needs to help a U.S. citizen and/or dependent(s) resettle after emergent conditions require the person to return to the U.S.

Legal Authorization

45 CFR Parts 211 and 212.

Funding Source

Initial expenditures are state funds that are reimbursed from federal funds.

Population Served

U.S. citizens and/or their dependent(s) returning from a foreign country.

Eligibility

The U.S. Department of State determines eligibility and authorizes repatriation based on poverty, mental illness, physical illness, or international crisis.

Services

1. Resettlement assistance for up to 90 days after return to the U.S., unless an extension is granted.

2. Cash loan based on the TANF payment standard for household size to pay for food, shelter, medical care and other emergent needs, or travel costs to the state of residence or final destination.
3. Social services to facilitate connection to social and community programs and services to establish access to housing and other ongoing needs.

Linkages

1. Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
2. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or other public assistance programs, if eligible
3. Food assistance
4. DSHS Children's Administration when the repatriate is an unaccompanied minor
5. U.S. State Department and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for program policy and coordination
6. International Social Services is contracted by ACF to refer eligible people and process claims for reimbursement

Working Connections Child Care Program (WCCC)

Brief Description

The Working Connection Child Care Program provides child care subsidies to eligible families to enable parents to work, attend training, or participate in education programs and to enable children to receive stable and good quality care. Due to the recent transfer of the WCCC program from DSHS to DCYF (transferred effective 7/1/2019), subsequent editions of the ESA Briefing Book will not present WCCC data.

Legal Authorization

RCW [74.04.050](#) and C.F.R. Parts 98 and 99 (Child Care Development Fund Rules); 2006 c 265 and chapter [43.215](#) RCW.

Funding Source

WCCC is funded through federal Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF), Washington State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds and TANF funds.

Population Served

Households with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) that meet approvable activity requirements. Effective July 1, 2016 income eligibility is based on a 'snapshot' at application and reapplication. Families are not required to report income changes during the 12-month eligibility period unless income exceeds 85% of the State Median Income, approximately 300% FPL. Effective October 1, 2016, households with income above 200% and below 220% of the FPL when they renew their eligibility are eligible for an additional three months of subsidy. Also effective October, 1 2016, a household must have resources less than \$1 million to be eligible for subsidy.

Eligibility

Parent(s) must participate in an approvable activity. Effective July 1, 2016 the approvable activity is based on a 'snapshot' at application and annual reapplication, and families are not required to report changes in work, school or other activities during the 12-month eligibility period. Beginning July 1, 2017, families experiencing homelessness are eligible for a four-month grace period before the requirement to be in an approved activity applies.

1. WorkFirst Participant.
 - a. An approved activity in an Individual Responsibility Plan and/or:
 - b. Employment, Self-Employment, Transportation Time, Study Time, Sleep Time.
2. Not a WorkFirst Participant.
 - a. Employment.
 - b. Self-Employment.
 - c. Basic Food Employment and Training.
 - d. Education.
 - i. Parent under age 22.
 1. High School.
 2. GED.
 - ii. Parent age 22 or older.
 1. Must work a minimum of 20 hours a week or be in 16 or more hours of work study.
 2. Limited to 24 months of:
 - i. Adult Basic Education.
 - ii. English as a Second Language.
 - iii. High School/GED Completion.

3. Limited to 36 months of:
 - i. Vocational Education.
3. Have countable income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines at application.
4. Children must:
 - a. Belong to one of the following groups:
 - i. A U.S. Citizen, a U.S. national, a qualified alien, or a nonqualified alien who meets the Washington State residency requirements.
 - b. Live in Washington State and be:
 - i. Less than age 13; or
 - ii. Less than age 19 and:
 1. Have a verified special need, or

3. Be under court supervision.

Services

Provides payment to licensed and license-exempt child care providers as reimbursement for child care services provided.

Linkages

1. Department of Children Youth and Families Customer Service Contact Center
2. TANF/WorkFirst
3. Community Service Offices (CSOs)
4. Licensed Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes
5. License-Exempt Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Providers
6. SEIU 925

Working Family Support (WFS)

Brief Description

The Working Family Support program is a cash program that provides an additional food benefit to qualifying families receiving Basic Food (SNAP), Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) who are working at least 35 hours per week. Working Family Support began May 1, 2016.

Legal Authorization

[WAC 388-493-0010](#).

Funding Source

100% State funded.

Population Served

Working families with a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) that are recipients of Basic Food (SNAP), Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA).

Eligibility

1. Households must be recipients of Basic Food (SNAP), Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA).
2. Receipt of the Working Family Support monthly benefit does not cause the household's countable food assistance income to exceed the 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
3. No one in the food assistance unit can be receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
4. The household must:

- a. Include a child who is under the age of 18 that is the parent's child through birth or adoption or is their step child.
 - b. Be residents of Washington State.
 - c. Include the qualifying child's parent, their spouse, or their co-parent that is working 35 hours per week and can provide verification of the hours of employment.
5. Working Family Support Program is limited to a maximum of 10,000 households.

Services

Monthly food benefit of up to \$10 that can be used on items allowed under Basic Food (SNAP), Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA). This benefit lasts six months and may be extended if the household recertifies and continues to meet the eligibility criteria.

Linkages

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies