

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

**EAZ Manual**

Revision # 722

Category Assistance Units – Basic Food  
Assistance Units – Cash Assistance Programs

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**Summary**

**WAC 388-408-0035** – “Who is in my assistance unit for Basic Food?”

**WAC 388-408-0015** – “Who must be in my assistance unit”

The Community Services Division, Basic Food and Cash Assistance programs policy units have modified the EAZ Manual *Clarifying Information* under WAC 388-408-0015 and WAC 388-408-0035 by adding the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** as an agency that orders home-monitoring or home detention. This addition to the text in these manual sections were necessary to acknowledge **SSB 6639, Sentencing Alternatives – Offenders with Minor Children** and the Custodial Parent Initiative’s alternative sentencing programs that include the “*Community Parenting Alternative (CPA)*” sentencing offered by the DOC to qualified parents potentially eligible for Basic Food or cash assistance while serving time under these conditions.

The addition of the text to the EA-Z Manual in this section did not change any rule or policy.

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WAC 388-408-0015

Effective March 1, 2001

**WAC 388-408-0015 Who must be in my assistance unit?**

\*\*\*\*\*Place holder only – No changes to WAC\*\*\*\*\*

**CLARIFYING INFORMATION**

**1. Home-monitored clients for TANF/SFA:**

A client that lives in the home but is under home monitoring or home detention ordered by the courts or the Department of Corrections is living in the home. We do not consider them as inmates of a public institution. Clients that live in a public institution aren't eligible for TANF under [WAC 388-400-0005](#).

**2. How a child's adoption affects the relationship between a child and their siblings:**

Adoption ends the legal relationship between biological siblings.



WAC 388-408-0035

Effective November 1, 2005

**WAC 388-408-0035 Who is in my assistance unit for Basic Food?**

\*\*\*\*\*Placeholder only – No changes to WAC\*\*\*\*\*

**CLARIFYING INFORMATION**

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**10. Adopted child living with biological parent:**

Adoption ends a biological parent's parental rights as well as their legal and financial responsibilities to the child. If a child who has been adopted lives in the same home as one of their biological parents, we do not consider it any different than if they were living with an unrelated adult. We determine if the child is in the same AU as their biological parent based whether or not the child is financially independent from their biological parent, and the arrangements for buying and preparing food.

**11. Live-in attendants:**

- a. A client does not have to be a paid employee to be a live-in attendant.
- b. Someone who must be in a client's AU under [WAC 388-408-0035](#) (2) cannot be in a separate AU even if this person is a live-in attendant.

**12. Income of an elderly and disabled AU member's spouse:**

- 1. If an elderly and disabled person can't buy and cook their own food, but they want to be a separate AU, we compare the income of the other people who live in the home to the 165% standard.
- 2. We don't count the income of the elderly and disabled person's spouse in the above step because spouses who live in the same home must **always** be in the same AU.

**4.13. Home-monitored AU members:**

For Basic Food, AU members who live at home and are being monitored by the court [or the Department of Corrections](#) are not considered as living in an institution. They can get Basic Food benefits if they meet all other eligibility requirements.

**1.14. Clients living in a group home:**

Clients who live in certain group homes may be eligible for Basic Food even though they are living in an institution. See WAC 388-408-0040 to determine if a client living in a group home can receive Basic Food.

**2.15. State-Funded Basic Food AUs:**

We use the same rules to build an AU for state-funded Basic Food as we do for federally funded benefits.

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