



# PROPOSED RULE MAKING

**CR-102 (June 2024)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.320)**  
Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: March 18, 2025

TIME: 2:21 PM

WSR 25-07-096

**Agency:** Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Division

- Original Notice**
- Supplemental Notice to WSR** \_\_\_\_\_
- Continuance of WSR** \_\_\_\_\_

- Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 25-01-100 ; or**
- Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_; or**
- Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or**
- Proposal is exempt under RCW \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Title of rule and other identifying information:** (describe subject) The department is proposing to amend WAC 388-478-0015, "Need standards for cash assistance."

**Hearing location(s):**

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
April 22, 2025	10:00 a.m.	Virtually via Teams or Call in	Hearings are held virtually, see the DSHS website at <a href="https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sesa/rpau/proposed-rules-and-public-hearings">https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sesa/rpau/proposed-rules-and-public-hearings</a> for the most current information.

**Date of intended adoption:** No earlier than April 23, 2025 (Note: This is **NOT** the **effective** date)

**Submit written comments to:**

Name DSHS Rules Coordinator  
 Address PO Box 45850, Olympia WA 98504  
 Email [DSHSRPAURulesCoordinator@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:DSHSRPAURulesCoordinator@dshs.wa.gov)  
 Fax 360-664-6185  
 Other

Beginning (date and time) noon on March 19, 2025  
 By (date and time) 5:00 p.m. on April 22, 2025

**Assistance for persons with disabilities:**

Contact Shelley Tencza, Rules Consultant  
 Phone 360-664-6036  
 Fax 360-664-6185  
 TTY 711 Relay Service  
 Email [shelley.tencza@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:shelley.tencza@dshs.wa.gov)  
 Other

By (date) 5:00 p.m. on April 8, 2025

**Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:** These amendments are necessary per RCW 74.04.770, which requires the department to annually update standards of need using an existing, broadly-used national standard. These amendments reflect this required update using the University of Washington Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard..

**Reasons supporting proposal:** See above

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.770, 74.08.090

**Statute being implemented:** RCW 74.04.770

**Is rule necessary because of a:**

- Federal Law?  Yes  No
- Federal Court Decision?  Yes  No
- State Court Decision?  Yes  No

If yes, CITATION:

**Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:** None

**Name of proponent:** (person or organization) Department of Social and Health Services

**Type of proponent:**  Private.  Public.  Governmental.

**Name of agency personnel responsible for:**

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting	Patrick Budde	PO Box 45470, Olympia, WA 98504-5470	360-764-0068
Implementation	Patrick Budde	PO Box 45470, Olympia, WA 98504-5470	360-764-0068
Enforcement	Patrick Budde	PO Box 45470, Olympia, WA 98504-5470	360-764-0068

**Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under [RCW 28A.305.135](#)?**  Yes  No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

- Name
- Address
- Phone
- Fax
- TTY
- Email
- Other

**Is a cost-benefit analysis required under [RCW 34.05.328](#)?**

Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

- Name
- Address
- Phone
- Fax
- TTY
- Email
- Other

No: Please explain: These rules are exempt as allowed under RCW 34.05.328(5)(b)(vii) which states in part, "this section does not apply to rules of the department of social and health services relating only to client medical or financial eligibility and rules concerning liability for care of dependents."

**Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement**

Note: The [Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance \(ORIA\)](#) provides support in completing this part.

**(1) Identification of exemptions:**

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see [chapter 19.85 RCW](#)). For additional information on exemptions, consult the [exemption guide published by ORIA](#). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.061](#) because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by [RCW 34.05.313](#) before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of [RCW 15.65.570](#)(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(3). Check all that apply:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(b)<br>(Internal government operations) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(e)<br>(Dictated by statute)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(c)<br>(Incorporation by reference)     | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(f)<br>(Set or adjust fees)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(d)<br>(Correct or clarify language)               | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">RCW 34.05.310</a> (4)(g)<br>((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit) |

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(4). (Does not affect small businesses).

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW 34.05.328(5)(b)(vii)..

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule: These amendments do not impact small businesses. They only impact DSHS customers.

**(2) Scope of exemptions:** *Check one.*

The rule proposal: Is fully exempt. (*Skip section 3.*) Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.

The rule proposal: Is partially exempt. (*Complete section 3.*) The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):

The rule proposal: Is not exempt. (*Complete section 3.*) No exemptions were identified above.

**(3) Small business economic impact statement:** *Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.*

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs. \_\_\_\_\_

Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

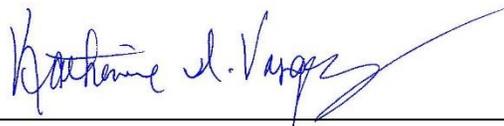
- Name
- Address
- Phone
- Fax
- TTY
- Email
- Other

**Date:** March 17, 2025

**Name:** Katherine I. Vasquez

**Title:** DSHS Rules Coordinator

**Signature:**



**WAC 388-478-0015 Need standards for cash assistance.** The monthly need and payment standards for cash assistance are based on a determination of the assistance unit size. The need standards for cash assistance units are:

Assistance unit size	Need standard
1	<del>((3,732))</del> <u>3,816</u>
2	<del>((5,911))</del> <u>6,044</u>
3	<del>((7,270))</del> <u>7,433</u>
4	<del>((9,369))</del> <u>9,579</u>
5	<del>((11,229))</del> <u>11,481</u>
6	<del>((13,104))</del> <u>13,399</u>
7	<del>((14,998))</del> <u>15,335</u>
8	<del>((16,842))</del> <u>17,220</u>
9	<del>((18,890))</del> <u>19,314</u>
10 or more	<del>((21,888))</del> <u>22,379</u>