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RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER STATE OF WASHINGTON FILED

DATE: September 17, 2024 TIME: 8:33 AM

WSR 24-19-076

Agency: Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Administration

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

 \Box 31 days after filing.

Other (specify) January 1, 2025 (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule? \Box Yes \boxtimes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The department is adopting amendments to WAC 388-432-0005, "Can I get help from DSHS for a family emergency without receiving monthly cash assistance?" Effective January 1, 2025, these amendments implement House Bill 2415 (Chapter 154, Laws of 2024) and increase the maximum Diversion Cash Assistance payment from \$1,250 to \$2,000.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New: None Repealed: None Amended: WAC 388-432-0005

Suspended: None

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.660, 74.08.090, 74.08A.210, 74.08A.230

Other authority: House Bill 2415 (Chapter 154, Laws of 2024)

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 24-16-121 on 08/06/24 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email: Web site:

Other:

Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero. No descriptive text.				
Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note. A section may be counted in more than one category.				
The number of sections adopted in order to comply	y with:			
Federal statute:	New	Amended	Repealed	
Federal rules or standards:	New	Amended	Repealed	
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	Amended	1 Repealed	
The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:				
	New	Amended	Repealed	
The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:				
	New	Amended	Repealed	
The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:				
	New	Amended	Repealed	
The number of sections adopted using:				
Negotiated rule making:	New	Amended	Repealed	
Pilot rule making:	New	Amended	Repealed	
Other alternative rule making:	New	Amended	1 Repealed	
Date Adopted: September 17, 2024	Signature:			
Name: Katherine I. Vasquez) 0	0.1		
Title: DSHS Rules Coordinator	Kathen	te I. Varge	n /	

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 21-21-065, filed 10/18/21, effective 11/18/21)

WAC 388-432-0005 Can I get help from DSHS for a family emergency without receiving monthly cash assistance? The department of social and health services (DSHS) has a program called diversion cash assistance (DCA). If your family needs an emergency cash payment but does not need ongoing monthly cash assistance, you may be eligible for this program.

(1) To get DCA, you must:

(a) Meet all the eligibility rules for temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) <u>WAC 388-400-0005 or</u> ((\neq)) state family assistance (SFA) <u>per WAC 388-400-0010.</u> ((\neq and once)) <u>If</u> DSHS finds you eligible, you are not required to fulfill the following TANF-related requirements:

(i) Participation in WorkFirst as defined in chapter 388-310 WAC; and

(ii) Assignment of child support rights or cooperation with the division of child support as defined in chapter 388-422 WAC;

(b) Have a current bona fide or approved need for living expenses;

(c) Provide proof that your need for DCA exists; and

(d) Have or expect to get enough income or resources to support you and your family for at least ((twelve)) <u>12</u> months.

(2) You may get DCA to help pay for one or more of the following needs:

(a) Child care;

(b) Housing;

(c) Transportation;

(d) Expenses to get or keep a job;

(e) Food costs, but not if an adult member of your family has been disqualified ((for food stamps)) from Washington's basic food program;

(f) Medical costs, except when an adult member of your family is not eligible because ((he or she)) they failed to provide third party liability (TPL) information as defined in WAC 182-503-0540.

(3) DCA payments are limited to:

(a) ((One)) <u>Two</u> thousand ((two hundred fifty)) dollars once in a ((twelve)) <u>12</u>-month period that starts with the month DCA benefits begin; and

(b) The cost of your need.

(4) ((We do)) <u>DSHS</u> does not budget your income or make you use your resources to lower the amount of DCA payments you can receive.

(5) DSHS may make DCA payments:

(a) All at once; or

(b) As separate payments over a ((thirty)) $\underline{30}$ -day period that starts on the date of your first DCA payment.

(6) ((We)) <u>DSHS</u> will pay your DCA benefit directly to the service provider when possible.

(7) You are not eligible for DCA if one or more of the following applies:

(a) Any adult member of your assistance unit got DCA within the last ((twelve)) <u>12</u> months;

(b) Any adult member of your assistance unit gets TANF/SFA currently; (c) Any adult member of your assistance unit is not eligible for cash assistance for any reason unless one parent in a two-parent-assistance unit currently receives ((SSI)) Social Security Income (SSI);
(d) Your assistance unit does not have a needy adult, such as

(d) Your assistance unit does not have a needy adult, such as when you do not receive TANF/SFA for yourself but for your children only;

(e) Any adult member of your assistance unit is not eligible for cash assistance for any one of the following sanctions:

(i) TANF/SFA closure because of a noncompliance sanction (NCS) termination;

(ii) TANF/SFA closure while in WorkFirst sanction on or after July 1, 2021; or

(iii) Noncooperation with division of child support.

(8) If you apply for DCA after your TANF/SFA grant is terminated, ((we consider)) <u>DSHS considers</u> you an applicant for DCA.

(9) If you apply for TANF/SFA and you received DCA less than ((twelve)) <u>12</u> months ago, ((we set)) <u>DSHS sets</u> up a DCA loan:

(a) The amount of the DCA loan is $((one-twelfth)) \frac{1/12th}{1/12th}$ of the total DCA benefit times the number of months that are left in the $((twelve)) \frac{12}{12}$ -month period;

(b) The first month begins with the month your DCA benefits began; and

(c) ((We)) <u>DSHS</u> will collect the loan only by reducing your TANF/SFA grant by ((five percent)) <u>5</u>% each month.

(10) If you stop getting TANF/SFA before you have repaid your DCA loan, ((we)) <u>DSHS</u> will stop collecting the loan unless you get back on TANF/SFA.