

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

**WAC Manual**

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**Summary**

The WAC Manual section WAC 388-492-0070; *How are my WASHCAP food benefits calculated?* is updated to increase WASHCAP high and low shelter standards.

As required by the WASHCAP demonstration project waiver with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, the department conducted its periodic caseload review to evaluate the cost neutrality between WASHCAP and Basic Food. Based on the findings of this review, we are increasing the WASHCAP shelter cost standards effective July 1, 2011 to ensure the program is cost neutral.

- The high shelter cost standard will change from \$379 to \$380 for WASHCAP participants with shelter costs at \$300 or higher.
- The low shelter cost standard will change from \$182 to \$195 for participants with shelter costs below \$300.

The current standard utility allowance is added to the appropriate shelter standard amount to determine the total shelter cost.