

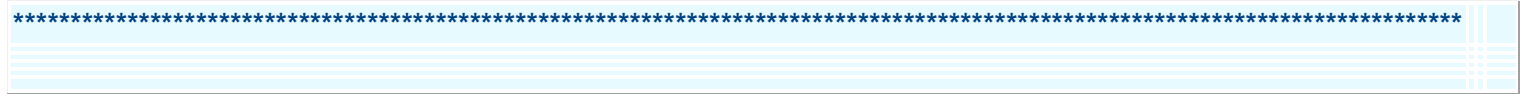
Department of Social and Health Services
Olympia, Washington
EAZ Manual

Revision # 961
Category Time Limits for Processing
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Summary

Updated Clarifying Information WAC 388-410-0030 to include the \$85 overpayment threshold for active food cases .

See below for edited text:



Clarifying Information - [WAC 388-410-0030](#)

NOTE: When the overpayment involves food assistance, current policy states that only a court of law or an Administrative Disqualification Hearing can determine an Intentional Program Violation (IPV).

The FSS establishes an unintentional overpayment, called Inadvertent Household Error, and refers the food and any related cash overpayment to OFA for investigation and potential prosecution.

1. **Calculating the Overpayment**

1. The overpayment amount is the difference between what the client received and what they were eligible to receive.
 2. When determining an overpayment amount, you may subtract an under payment, if not already issued, from an overpayment to get the net overpayment amount.
2. **Overpayments discovered by QC Reviews:** If the department discovered an overpayment through the federal QC process or the QC process reports the case as ineligible for benefits, we must set up an overpayment regardless of the amount.
 3. **Overpayments discovered outside the QC Review process:** If we didn't discover the overpayment through the federal QC process, we set up an overpayment if:
 1. The responsible household members **still receive** Basic Food or WASHCAP benefits **and the overpayment is over \$85**; or
 2. The overpayments total **more than \$125**.
3. **NOTE:** Overpayments discovered through internal audits, Management Evaluation reviews, or any payment accuracy initiatives **are not** considered as discovered through the federal QC process.

4. **OFR collects on established debts regardless of the amount.** The **\$85 and -\$125 rules** apply to whether or not we establish an overpayment for Basic Food or WASHCAP. OFR will collect on established overpayments regardless of the amount. This includes when we:
 - Set up an overpayment for an AU who no longer receives Basic Food; or
 - Modify an existing overpayment to \$125 or less.

OFR is the point of contact for compromising (reducing) overpayment balances or making decisions on waiving overpayment collections. Clients must be referred to OFR for these requests.