

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

**EAZ Manual**

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| Revision         | #998   |
| Category         | Cash Assistance  |
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| Revision Author: | Sarah Garcia   |
| Division         | CSD  |
| Mail Stop        | 45440  |
| Phone            | 360-725-4894   |
| Email            | <a href="mailto:roddisl@dshs.wa.gov">roddisl@dshs.wa.gov</a> |

**Summary**

Updated the EAZ chapters Cash Assistance updated with 9.3% grant increase.

## Cash Assistance

Revised ~~January~~ [July 17, 2018](#)

### Purpose:

This section contains cash assistance need and payment standards, eligibility standards based on income, and standards for ongoing additional requirements.

**[WAC 388-478-0005](#)** Cash assistance need and payment standards and grant maximum.

- [Clarifying Information](#)

**WAC 388-478-0010** Households with obligations to pay shelter costs.

- [Clarifying Information](#)

**WAC 388-478-0020** Payment standards for TANF, SFA, and RCA.

- [Clarifying Information](#)

**WAC 388-478-0035** What are the maximum earned income limits for TANF, SFA, PWA and RCA?

- [Clarifying Information](#)

**WAC 182-515-1500** Payment standard for persons in certain group living facilities.

- [Clarifying Information](#)

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## Clarifying Information - [WAC 388-478-0005](#)

DSHS is required by state law [[RCW 74.04.770](#)] to establish, on an annual basis, standards of need for cash assistance programs. These standards are based on studies of actual living costs for basic requirements. They may vary by program and family size. Separate standards may be established for assistance units with shelter provided at no cost.

Payment standards are based on assistance unit size and are used to determine eligibility and benefit levels for cash assistance.

The percentage difference between the need and payment standard for an assistance unit is called the ratable reduction. Starting July 1, 2012, the grant payment cannot exceed the payment standard for a family of eight listed in [WAC 388-478-0020](#).

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## Clarifying Information - [WAC 388-478-0010](#)

In August, 1990, ~~a the~~ Thurston County Superior Court entered an order in *Washington Coalition for the Homeless v. Thompson* which held that standards for assistance units with shelter provided at no

cost could not be applied to persons and families who are "without assured free shelter." - The department's rule defining persons and families whose eligibility and payment levels must be based on standards for assistance units with obligations to pay shelter costs to complyes with the court order.

**EXAMPLE:**

EXAMPLE: Carol and her 12-year-old daughter live in a one-bedroom apartment. Carol signed a rental agreement to rent month to month. Her shelter costs are \$150.00 per month and pays \$25.00 for water, sewer and garbage per month. In this scenario, the worker codes At Home (AH) for the living arrangement code of the Clients screen in ACES 3G. Carol has permanent stable housing.

~~Carol and her 12-year-old daughter live in a one-bedroom apartment. Carol signed a rental agreement to rent month to month. Her shelter cost are \$150.00 per month and pays \$25.00 of water, sewer and garbage per month. In this scenario the worker codes AH in the living arrangement code of the Dem1 screen. Carol has permanent stable housing.~~

**EXAMPLE:**

EXAMPLE: Carol and her 12-year-old daughter were evicted due to non-payment of rent. They moved in with Carol's aunt Teresa, who is 70 years old and resides in a retirement community. Aunt Teresa's manager has approved for Carol and her 12-year-old child to live with Teresa temporarily. Aunt Teresa is not charging Carol housing costs. In this scenario the worker codes Homeless w/ Housing (HH) for the living arrangement code of the Clients screen in ACES 3G. Carol's housing is temporary.

~~Carol and her 12-year-old daughter were evicted due to non-payment of rent. They moved in with Carol's aunt Teresa who is 70 years old and resides in a retirement community. Aunt Teresa's manager has approved for Carol and her 12-year-old child to live with Teresa temporarily. Aunt Teresa is not charging Carol housing cost. In this scenario the worker codes HH in the living arrangement code of the Dem1 screen. Carol's housing is temporary.~~

## Clarifying Information - WAC 388-478-0020

### WAC 388-478-0020 Payment standards for TANF, SFA, and RCA.

1. The payment standards for **T**emporary **A**ssistance for **N**eedy **F**amilies - TANF, **S**tate **F**amily **A**ssistance - SFA, and **R**efugee **C**ash **A**ssistance - RCA assistance units with obligations to pay shelter costs are:

| Assistance Unit Size | Payment Standard      | Assistance Unit Size | Payment Standard      |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1                    | \$ <del>332</del> 363 | 6                    | \$ <del>802</del> 877 |

1. The payment standards for **T**emporary **A**ssistance for **N**eedy **F**amilies - TANF, **S**tate **F**amily **A**ssistance - SFA, and **R**efugee **C**ash **A**ssistance - RCA assistance units with obligations to pay shelter costs are:

|   |               |            |                   |
|---|---------------|------------|-------------------|
| 2 | <u>420459</u> | 7          | <u>9271,013</u>   |
| 3 | <u>524569</u> | 8          | <u>1,0261,121</u> |
| 4 | <u>613670</u> | 9          | <u>1,1261,231</u> |
| 5 | <u>706772</u> | 10 or more | <u>1,2241,338</u> |

2. The payment standards for TANF, SFA, and RCA assistance units with shelter provided at no cost are:

| Assistance Unit Size | Payment Standard | Assistance Unit Size | Payment Standard |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1                    | <u>\$202221</u>  | 6                    | <u>\$ 487532</u> |
| 2                    | <u>256280</u>    | 7                    | <u>564616</u>    |
| 3                    | <u>316345</u>    | 8                    | <u>623681</u>    |
| 4                    | <u>373408</u>    | 9                    | <u>685749</u>    |
| 5                    | <u>429469</u>    | 10 or more           | <u>744813</u>    |

This is a reprint of the official rule as published by the [Office of the Code Reviser](#). If there are previous versions of this rule, they can be found using the [Legislative Search page](#).

## Clarifying Information - WAC 388-478-0035

To determine a family's gross earned income, see [WAC 388-450-0165](#).

## Clarifying Information - WAC 182-515-1500

The payment standard for TANF, SFA, PWA, ABD cash, and RCA recipients who are in medical institutions or other facilities for more than 90 days is the appropriate CPI amount. See [WAC 388-454-0015](#).