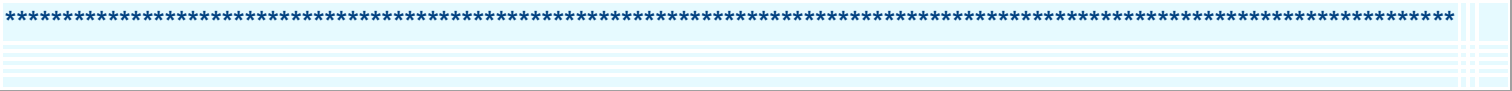


Department of Social and Health Services
Community Services Division
EA-Z Manual

Revision: # 1303
Category: Treatment of Income Chart
Issued: 10/7/2024
Revision Author: Sam Del Vecchio
Division: CSD
Mail Stop: 45440
Phone: 564-233-1647
Email: samantha.del-vecchio@dshs.wa.gov

Summary

Updated EA-Z Manual to clarify how to treat distributions (income) from retirement accounts.



Treatment of Income Chart

Revised: ~~April 26~~ **October 7, 2024**

Note: For Treatment of Income for Classic Medical Programs please reference the Classic (Non-MAGI-based) Apple Health Manual- [Treatment of Income Chart](#)

American Rescue Plan Act signed into law March 11, 2021. For Classic Medical see [WAC 182-521-0100](#).

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Coronavirus Federal Stimulus Payment | Excluded (any portion remaining after 12 months is considered a resource) | Excluded (any portion remaining after 12 months is considered a resource) |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Additional \$300 Unemployment | Unearned | Excluded |
| Expanded or Extended Unemployment | Unearned | Unearned |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs (AREN) | N/A | Excluded - When paid to a Third Party Unearned - When paid directly to the client |
| Adoption Support | Excluded | Unearned |
| Adult family home | See Self Employment | |
| Advance on wages (draws) | Earned | |
| Agent Orange Act of 1991 | Excluded | Unearned - Monthly payments Lump sum - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|--|---|
| Agent Orange disability payments, PL 101-201 | Excluded | |
| Alaska Permanent Fund distributions | Unearned | |
| Alimony or spousal maintenance | Excluded - When client receives TANF/SFA and payment is included with child support order Unearned - All other payments | |
| AmeriCorps income and all payments under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 | Excluded See WAC 388-450-0045 | |
| AmeriCorps VISTA or Vista income (NOTE: This is not the same as AmeriCorps only - See above) | Excluded | Excluded: If the VISTA volunteer received Basic Food or cash benefits when they joined the VISTA program, Earned: If the person was a VISTA volunteer when they applied for benefits. See WAC 388-450-0045 |
| Annuity | Unearned | |
| Assistance from other agencies and organizations | See WAC 388-450-0055 | |
| Austrian General Social Insurance Act payments under section 500 through 506 | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|---|-----------------|
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Blood or plasma sales | Earned - See Self Employment | |
| Bona fide loans | Excluded | |
| Bonus | <p>Earned - When received as an employee</p> <p>Unearned - When received on an ongoing basis after employment has terminated</p> <p>See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS - When received as one-time-payment after employment has terminated</p> | |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance | Unearned | |
| Burial fund increase | Excluded - See RESOURCES | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Cash benefits reduced as a result of sanction or non-cooperation | N/A | Unearned |
| Cash payments from government, public, or private medical or social service agency | See specific income type | |
| Cash prizes, awards. lottery winnings | See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS | Unearned |
| CEAP | N/A | Excluded |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|---|--|
| CEAP - For TANF/SFA households terminated while in WorkFirst sanction (See WorkFirst Sanctions - Participation) | Unearned - TANF/SFA | Excluded |
| Census Bureau wages | Excluded - Earnings from temporary work for the recent census Earned - Earnings from permanent census employment | |
| Charitable cash donations | See WAC 388-450-0055 | See WAC 388-450-0055 |
| Child support received by the client Child support matrix | Excluded - TANF/SFA recipients Unearned - Non-TANF/SFA | Unearned - of the child for whom it is intended |
| Child Support pass-through payments – Effective 2/1/2020 | Excluded - TANF/SFA recipients | Unearned |
| Child support arrears | Unearned - of the parent | |
| Civil liberties payments, PL 100-383. Restitution payments made under the Wartime Relocation of Civilian's Act | Excluded | |
| COLA increases in Title II SSA benefits | Unearned | |
| Combat Veteran Program Funds | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|--|--|
| Combat Pay - Special Pay while serving in a combat zone. | <p>Excluded</p> <p>Increased amount paid to assistance unit while service member is deployed to a combat zone.</p> | |
| Court Ordered Payments other than Child Support | <p>Lump-Sum Payment</p> <p>Amount paid as a one-time payment</p> <p>Unearned</p> <p>Amount paid in multiple (more than one) payments</p> | |
| Crime Victims Compensation Funds funded under PL 103-322 (Whether ran by state or federal program.) | <p>Excluded</p> | |
| Crime Victims Compensation (State-funded benefit through L&I) | <p>Unearned - Amount paid to replace lost wages</p> <p>Reimbursement - See Reimbursements in this table</p> | |
| Crowd Funding Income (GoFund Me, Kickstarter, Indiegogo) | <p>Unearned</p> | <p>Excluded - Counts as a liquid resource</p> |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Deemed income from an alien's sponsor | <p>Unearned - See WAC 388-450-0155, WAC 388-450-0156 and WAC 388-450-0160</p> | |
| Disaster assistance to farmers when authorized under the Secretary of Agriculture under PL 100-387 | <p>Excluded</p> | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|---|---|
| Disaster relief & emergency assistance under PL 93-288, amended by PL 100-707 | Excluded | |
| Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) | Excluded | |
| Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) | N/A | Excluded - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS |
| Dividends or Interest | Unearned | |
| Drug (illicit) sales | Earned - WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Earned income of a child | Excluded when meets the conditions in WAC 388-450-0070 ; otherwise Earned . | |
| Earned Income In-Kind (working in exchange for rent, vehicle, TV) | Earned | Excluded Earned - If available income was diverted to in-kind income |
| Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) | Excluded - See RESOURCES | |
| Economic Opportunity Act | Earned | |
| Economic Security for All - Career Accelerator Incentives (EcSA) | See - Assistance from other agencies and organizations | |
| | Title IV (grants/loans/ | Excluded |

| Income Type | | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Educational benefits | work-study) and Opportunity Grants | | |
| | WorkFirst or state-funded college work study | Excluded | Earned See WAC 388-450-0035 to allocate expenses. |
| | Other educational assistance including Veteran's Administration and Carl D. Perkins Vocational & Applied Tech Act | Unearned See WAC 388-450-0035 to allocate expenses. | |
| Egg or sperm donation | | Earned See WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment | |
| Energy assistance payments (LIHEAP) | | Excluded | |
| Income Type | | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Fellowships with work requirements | | Earned | |
| Flexible benefits | | Earned - When client has option to cash out. (Count the amount client can receive as cash whether or not they choose to receive the benefit in cash.) See INCOME - Ownership and Availability | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Food benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (includes tribal commodities)</p> | <p>Excluded</p> | <p>N/A</p> <p>Persons cannot receive Basic Food and commodities through the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) at the same time.</p> |
| <p>Food Service Program for Children under the National School Lunch Act of 1966, PL 92-433 and 93-150</p> | <p>Excluded</p> | |
| <p>Foster Care Maintenance Payments</p> <p>See WACs 388-450-0015 and 388-454-0015.</p> | <p>Excluded - When child receiving Foster Care payments isn't included in the cash AU.</p> <p>A child can't receive foster care payments and TANF/SFA cash assistance at the same time.</p> | <p>Unearned - When child is in AU</p> <p>Excluded - When child isn't in AU</p> |
| <p>Foster care retainer fees</p> <p>(If the retainer fee is to reserve a bed for a foster child, then this income is considered self employment. See WAC 388-450-0080)</p> | <p>Earned</p> | <p>Unearned</p> |
| <p>Foster Grandparents Program under Title II of P.L. 93-113</p> | <p>Excluded</p> | |

| Income Type | | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|----------|---|--|
| Funds for shared household costs | | Excluded | |
| Income Type | | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Gambling winnings | | Unearned | |
| Gate money from adult corrections | | Unearned | Excluded - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS |
| Gift Cards | | Excluded | See Income Special Types |
| Gifts See WAC 388-450-0065 | Cash | Excluded \$30 or less per quarter Unearned Greater than \$30 per quarter | |
| | Non-cash | See Resources | |
| Gifts to Children with life-threatening conditions, PL 105-306 | | N/A | |
| Homeless Service Providers COLA Stipend | | <p>Unearned – The application month the one-time payment is received or anticipated.</p> <p>Excluded – The months the stipend is not anticipated or received.</p> | <p>Unearned – When received or anticipated in the month of application or following month. The household would follow food change reporting rules for ongoing months.</p> |
| Health Profession Opportunity Grant (HPOG) funds | | See Educational Benefits | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|-----------------|
| HUD Community Development block grant funds | Excluded | |
| HUD rental and/or utility subsidies under Section 8 of the housing act | Excluded | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Income a client's ineligible or non-applying spouse receives from a government agency (such as CHORE services) | See specific income type | |
| Income specifically excluded from being counted as income under federal law | Excluded | |
| Income Tax refund | Excluded | |
| Income which causes a client to lose SSI eligibility due solely to the reduction in the state supplement (SSP) | See specific income type | |
| Individual & Family Services (IFS) payments | N/A | Excluded |
| Infrequent or irregular income | Excluded - If not reasonably anticipated. Unearned - If reasonably anticipated and greater than \$30/quarter. | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|---|
| Insurance settlements | Excluded - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS | |
| Interest received on repayments made to the client | Unearned | |
| Investment income | Unearned | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Job Corps income under WIA (WIOA) See WAC 388-450-0045 | Excluded | Excluded – children ≤ 18 under parental control. Earned – children ≤ 18 not under parental control or ≥19. |
| Joint bank accounts * | Unearned - If client withdraws more than their share of the money | |
| Jury duty income | Excluded | Excluded - Reimbursement Earned - Daily pay over a period of time One-Time-Payment - See Infrequent or irregular income |
| Life estate income | Unearned | |
| Lived Experience Compensation | Excluded | Earned - WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment |
| Loan repayments made to clients (principal only) | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|---|---|
| Lost Wages Assistance Program (LWAP) | Excluded | |
| Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act (LIHEAA) under P.L. 99-425 | Excluded | |
| Lump Sum Payments | <p>Excluded if awarded for wrongful death, personal injury, damage or loss of property.</p> <p>Unearned – all other lump sums.</p> <p>See WAC 388-455-0015</p> | <p>Excluded</p> <p>Unearned - If a cash gift, See WAC 388-450-0065 Gifts - Cash and noncash</p> |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Maternity leave pay (client still employed) | Earned | |
| Meals | <p>Disregarded - When provided by employer at no charge</p> <p>Earned - When deducted from paycheck by employer</p> | |
| Military pay | <p>Earned - Include total entitlements as the gross monthly income.</p> <p>See Treatment of Income Military Pay. See Combat Pay for specific Combat Pay information.</p> | |
| Money excluded by the Social Security Administration (SSA) in a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS) Under PL 102-237 | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|---|--|
| Money received for an absent or non-household member | Excluded Unearned - Any portion retained by the AU | |
| Money withheld for repayment | Excluded | Unearned - For intentional non-compliance with federal or state means-tested program overpayments Excluded - All other overpayments |
| Montgomery GI Bill | See Educational Benefits – Veteran’s Administration | |
| Monthly allowances paid to children of Vietnam Veterans who are born with birth defects, PL 106-419, PL 104-204 | Excluded | |
| Native American benefits & payments | See WAC 388-450-0040 | |
| Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) benefits from Puerto Rico, American Samoa, or Northern Mariana Islands | Excluded | Excluded |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Ongoing Additional Requirements | Excluded | Excluded - Amount for service animal food Unearned - All other ongoing additional requirements |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|--|---|
| <p>On-the-job training (OJT) wages</p> <p>See WAC 388-450-0045</p> | <p>Excluded if payments issued under WIA (WIOA) or support services from WorkFirst</p> <p>Earned if training payments from vocational and rehabilitative programs are recognized by federal, state or local governments and if payment isn't reimbursement</p> | <p>Excluded if for children ≤ 18 and under parental control for payments issued under WIA (WIOA)</p> <p>Earned if client is ≥ 19 years old or ≤ 18 and not under parental control for payments under WIA (WIOA)</p> |
| <p>Opportunity Grants</p> | <p>See Educational Benefits</p> | |
| <p>Paid Time Off (PTO) (i.e. Vacation/Sick leave pay)</p> | <p>Earned</p> | <p>Earned - if still employed</p> <p>Excluded - Lump sum and if employment terminated</p> <p>Unearned - More than one payment and if employment terminated</p> |
| <p>Panhandling</p> | <p>Unearned</p> | |
| <p>Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML)</p> | <p>Unearned</p> | |
| <p>PASS income is money excluded by the Social Security Administration (SSA) in a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS) Under PL 102-237</p> | <p>Excluded</p> | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|------------|
| Payments under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 P.L. 89-642 | Excluded | |
| Payments form the Dutch Government, under the Netherlands ' Act on Benefits for Victims of Persecution (WUV) | Excluded | |
| Payments under the Federal Republic of Germany 's Law for Compensation of National Socialist Persecution or German Restitution Act | Excluded | |
| Payments Under the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund (Division A, Title X, Section1002 of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ARRA) | Excluded | |
| Payments to persons age 55 and older under the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1987. | Excluded | |
| Pensions | Unearned | |
| Prostitution | Earned - WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|---|--|
| Public assistance (including tribal TANF) | Unearned | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Radiation exposure compensation, under PL 101-426 and PL 106-398 Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act (EEOICA) 2000. | Excluded | |
| Railroad Retirement Benefits (RRB) | Unearned | |
| Real estate / mortgage sales and contracts | Contract - See RESOURCES Unearned - Payments from contract | Unearned |
| Re-Employ Washington Workers (RWW) cash incentive | N/A | Unearned |
| Refund by any public agency of taxes paid on real property or on food | N/A | |
| Reimbursements | Excluded Unearned - Amounts in Excess of expenses Earned - Amounts in Excess of expenses when paid by employer | Excluded Unearned - Amounts that cover normal living expenses |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|--|--|
| Relative Guardian Assistance Program (RGAP) also known as the Guardian Assistance Program (GAP) | Excluded | Unearned |
| Rental or lease property income | Earned – WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment – if spending 20 hours/week or more managing the property Unearned – if spending less than 20 hours/week managing the property. | |
| Representative payee fees | N/A | Excluded - When set up by SSA for SSI / SSDI recipients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not exceed the lesser of 10% of the monthly payment or \$42. • Alcohol or drug payee fees must not exceed the lesser of 10% or \$80. SSA periodically adjusts the fees that a payee may charge for persons who receive SSI or SSD Unearned - For all others |
| Residuals | Earned | |
| Retirement (including distributions from 401K, IRA, Roth IRA, or Keogh Plan) | Unearned – When received as a recurring distribution For one-time withdrawals, see Lump Sum Payments | |
| Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) under Title II of P.L. 93-113 | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|---|---|
| Retroactive benefits (SSA, SSI, PA, UC, and VA) | Excluded - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS | |
| Retroactive WCCC payments | Excluded | Excluded - See RESOURCES |
| Reverse mortgage | Excluded | |
| Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998 | Unearned | Excluded |
| Room and board income | See WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment | |
| Royalties | Unearned | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Savings bond interest | Unearned | |
| Securities income | Unearned | |
| Security deposit refunds | Excluded See RESOURCES | |
| Self-employment income | Earned – WAC 388-450-0080 388-450-0085 Self Employment | |
| Self-employment income normally allowed as an income deductions by the IRS | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|-----------------|
| Senior Companion Program under Title II of P.L. 93-113 | Excluded | |
| Settlements | See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS | |
| Shared leave | Earned | |
| SSDI | Unearned | |
| SSI | Excluded See WAC 388-408-0020 – client receiving SSI can’t receive TANF/SFA. | Unearned |
| SSI Income or State Supplement Payment (SSP) | Excluded | Unearned |
| Strike benefits | Unearned | |
| Strike benefits for picket duty | Earned | Unearned |
| Student loans | See Educational Benefits | |
| Summer youth employment or training programs | Earned Excluded – for children who meet age, school/attendance per WACs 388-450-0070 and 388-404-0005 . | Excluded |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|---|---|
| Support payment on behalf of a household member (paid directly to a third party) | See Vendor Payment in Worker Responsibilities | |
| Surrogate mother services | Earned - WAC 388-450-0080 Self Employment | Earned - WAC 388-450-0080; Self Employment |
| Susan Walker v. Bayer Corporation, settlement funds | N/A | Unearned - Monthly Payment Lump Sum - See LUMP SUM PAYMENTS |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Tax rebates or special payments excluded under other laws | Excluded | |
| Time loss compensation | Unearned See WAC 388-450-0010 | |
| Tips | Earned | |
| Title I, II, III of the Domestic Volunteer Act of 1973, PL 93-113 - Including VISTA | Excluded | Unearned (See WAC 388-450-0045 for exceptions) |
| Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act | Earned | |
| Title I of the National & Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (NCSA) (includes AmeriCorps Programs & Higher Education Service - Learning Program) | Excluded - See WAC 388-450-0045 | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|--|--|------------|
| Training allowances for ABD/HEN clients | See WAC 388-450-0045 | |
| Training allowances from vocational and rehabilitation programs | Earned when federal, state, or local government recognizes program and allowance isn't a reimbursement. See WAC 388-450-0045 | |
| Travel advances | Earned - If a contract exists Earned - Minus expenses if no contract exists | |
| Unearned income in-kind (supplied) | Excluded | |
| Unemployment Compensation (UC) - before deductions | Unearned | |
| Uniform Relocation Assistance & Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, PL 94-646, section 218 | Excluded | |
| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
| Vendor payments | Excluded | |
| Veteran Administration benefits (service connected compensation or improved pension) | Unearned | |
| Veteran's benefits designated for the veteran's dependent | Unearned | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|--|---|
| Veteran's benefits designated as aid and attendance or housebound allowance | Unearned | |
| Veteran's benefits designated as Unusual Medical Expenses (UME) | Unearned | |
| Victims of Nazi Persecution payments under P.L. 103-286 | Excluded | |
| VOLAG - One time payments | Excluded | |
| VOLAG - Ongoing payments including Matching Grant Program | Unearned Counted as assistance from another agency or organization under WAC 388-450-0055 . | |
| Wages, salaries, commissions, profits | Earned | |
| Witness pay | Excluded - See WAC 388-450-0055 | Excluded - Reimbursement Earned - Daily pay over a period of time If a One-time-payment - See Infrequent or irregular income |
| Washington's Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) | Excluded - See RESOURCES | Excluded - see WAC 182-512-08630 |
| Women, Infants & Children benefits (WIC) | Excluded | |

| Income Type | Cash Assistance | Basic Food |
|---|---|--|
| Work-Based Learning income for RISE participants | Excluded | |
| Work experience wages from Employment Security Department | See OJT | |
| WorkFirst Supportive Service payments | Excluded See WAC 388-450-0045 | |
| WorkForce Training Funds - Training Completion (TECA) | See WAC 388-450-0055 | Unearned - May be reduced by educational expenses |
| Work related expenses | N/A | |
| Work study | See Educational Benefits | |