

Department of Social and Health Services  
Economic Services Administration

# Overview of Major Statewide Programs and Services

At the **Department of Social and Health Services**, we help people find their pathway out of poverty with various programs administered by our Economic Services Administration. We are a national leader in providing poverty reduction services to nearly 1.8 million people in our state. We help our clients meet their basic needs and achieve economic independence through cash grants, food and medical assistance, employment-focused services, refugee assistance, disability determinations and child support collection.



*Transforming lives*

10/2019

	Description/ Target Population	Financial Eligibility Criteria	Federal/State Statutory Authority	2017-19 Biennium	Avg. Monthly Caseload SFY 18 <sup>1</sup>
<b>AID FOR NEEDY FAMILIES</b>					
<p><b>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)</b></p> <p><b>State Family Assistance (SFA)</b></p>	<p>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) provides cash grants to families with children and pregnant women who are below income and resource limits. Persons who are caring for a relative's child or guardians who are acting in the place of a parent are also able to apply for TANF on behalf of these children.</p> <p>State Family Assistance (SFA) provides cash assistance to families who are lawfully present non-citizens who do not meet citizenship requirements of TANF, dependent students age 19 to 20, pregnant women who are ineligible to receive TANF and some two-parent households that include one pregnant parent or a child under the age of 12 months old.</p>	<p>Family's countable income must fall below established limits. Eligibility is also based on a family's assets. Value of a family's home and one car (with equity up to \$10,000) is exempt from asset considerations.</p>	<p><b>TANF Federal Authority</b> PL 109-171 (DRA), Title VII – Human Resources, Subtitle A - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Subsection 7101; PL. 104-193 (PRWORA), Title I - Block Grants for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; PL 105-33 (BBA), Title V - Welfare and Related Provisions; 42 USC 601 &amp; 45 CFR Part 260</p> <p><b>SFA Federal Authority</b> 8 USC 1621 (d) – State authority to provide for eligibility of illegal aliens for state and local public benefits</p> <p><b>TANF State Authority</b> RCW 74.08A and 74.12</p> <p><b>SFA State Authority</b> RCW 74.08A.100, RCW 74.12.035</p>	<p><b>\$260.3 million:</b></p> <p>\$18.6 million GF-S TANF MOE</p> <p>\$241.7 million GF-F TANF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26,030 families per month (including 788 SFA cases)</li> <li>• 11,817 (45.4 percent) single parent families</li> <li>• 1,785 (6.9 percent) two-parent families</li> <li>• 12,428 (47.7 percent) child-only cases</li> </ul>
<p><b>WorkFirst Employment and Training</b></p>	<p>Provides employment, training and other activities and supports to TANF/SFA recipients who are mandatory participants in WorkFirst so they can move forward on a pathway to economic stability.</p>	<p>Families must be recipients of TANF or SFA.</p>	<p><b>Federal Authority</b> PL 104-193</p> <p><b>State Authority</b> RCW 74.08A</p>	<p><b>\$156 million:</b></p> <p>\$34.4 million NGF-S</p> <p>\$121.6 million GF-F TANF</p>	

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, caseload data for most programs is sourced from the ESA Briefing Book (SFY 2018) prepared by the ESA Management Accountability and Performance Statistics (EMAPS) unit. Data for the following programs was provided by non-EMAPS staff in August-September 2019: U.S. Repatriate Program, Basic Food Employment & Training Services, Basic Food Education & Outreach, and SNAP – Ed (Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention).

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<b>AID FOR NEEDY FAMILIES</b>					
<b>Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)</b>	Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) provides short-term financial assistance for families who have an emergent need and do not wish to receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) assistance. DCA recipients are not likely to need continued assistance if their emergent needs are met. Limited to \$1250 in a 30-day period once every 12 months. DCA allows the applicant to accept or maintain employment and diverts the applicant from TANF and long-term welfare dependency. If the families go on TANF within 12 months of receiving DCA, a prorated amount of the DCA payment must be repaid to the state by monthly deductions equal to 5 percent of the cash grant.	Family must meet TANF eligibility criteria in the month of application.	<i>Federal Authority</i> PL 104-193 & 42 USC 604  <i>State Authority</i> RCW 74.08A.210	\$5.1 million GF-S TANF MOE	171 families
<b>Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs (AREN)</b>	Provides short-term cash assistance to meet emergent housing or utility needs for pregnant women or families with an eligible minor child who receive TANF, SFA or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA). Benefits may be authorized up to a maximum of \$750 in a 12-month period.	Family must receive TANF, SFA or RCA.	<i>Federal Authority</i> 42 USC 604	AREN funds are included in TANF budget; do not have separate AREN budget category  Monthly spending is at \$98,000	215 families
<b>Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP)</b>	Provides cash grants to needy families who are ineligible for any other program, including families who have stopped receiving a TANF or SFA grant due to WorkFirst sanction, and have a specific emergent need such as shelter, food, clothing, minor medical, utilities, household maintenance or job-related transportation. A family is eligible for CEAP once in 12 months as funding allows.	Families, pregnant women and WorkFirst sanction families who are ineligible for other cash programs and countable income and assets fall below established limits.	<i>Federal Authority</i> 42 USC 604  <i>State Authority</i> RCW 74.04.660	\$596,000 GF-S	65 families

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<b>CHILD SUPPORT</b>					
<b>Child Support Enforcement</b>	We help parents contribute to brighter futures for their children through the collection and disbursement of child support, medical enforcement and paternity establishment.	No income or resource criteria. Families who receive TANF and children in foster care automatically receive child support services. Families not receiving TANF who apply for child support services receive them as well as families formerly on TANF.	<p><b>Federal Authority</b> Title IV-D of Social Security Act (42 USC 608-669b and 45 CFR Volume 2, Chap. III, 300-399)</p> <p><b>State Authority</b> RCW 26.09; RCW 26.18; RCW 24.21A; RCW 26.23; RCW 26.26; RCW 70.58; RCW 74.20; RCW 74.20A</p>	<p><b>\$297.4 million:</b></p> <p>\$88 million NGF-S \$121,000 Local</p> <p>\$209.2 million GF-F</p>	<p>326,923 cases</p> <p>188,661 paternity establishments at the end of SFY 2018 (June 2018)</p> <p>About two-thirds of the state's child support cases involve parents and children who are current (9.1 percent) or former (54.9 percent) TANF recipients (SFY 2018)</p>
<b>Paternity Establishment</b>	Establish paternity by acknowledgment or by court order for all minor children born out of wedlock.		<p><b>Federal Authority</b> 42 USC 654; 42 USC 666; 45 CFR 303.5</p> <p><b>State Authority</b> RCW 26.21A; RCW 26.26; RCW 70.58; RCW 74.20; RCW 74.20A</p>		
<b>AID FOR NEEDY INDIVIDUALS</b>					
<b>Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance</b>	Provides a cash grant to persons who are age 65 or older, blind or determined likely to meet Social Security Administration (SSA) disability criteria. Recipients also receive a referral to the Department of Commerce administered Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program and assistance applying for federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. DSHS receives reimbursement for cash grants paid to ABD recipients who transition to SSI.	Countable income and assets must fall below established limits.	RCW Chapter 74.62	<p>\$81.5 million GF-S</p> <p>-\$28.3 million Recoveries</p>	19,694 clients

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<b>AID FOR NEEDY INDIVIDUALS</b>					
<b>Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral</b>	Provides a referral for potential housing assistance through the Commerce-administered HEN program to individuals who are ineligible for ABD and unable to work at least 90 days due to a physical or mental incapacity. Recipients are also eligible to receive essential needs items such as bus passes and personal care items.	Countable income and assets must fall below established limits.	RCW 43.185C.220, RCW Chapter 74.62 - RCW 74.04.805	Department of Commerce	5,930 clients
<b>Pregnant Women Assistance</b>	Provides a cash grant to persons who are pregnant and are ineligible for federal TANF/ SFA benefits for a reason other than failure to cooperate with program requirements.	Countable income and assets must fall below established limits.	RCW Chapter 74.62	\$290,000 GF-S	60 clients
<b>Medical Care Services</b>	Provides state-funded health care coverage to ABD and HEN Referral recipients who are legally in Washington state but ineligible for Medicaid due to their immigration status.	Countable income and assets must fall below established limits.	RCW 41.05.021 RCW 74.09.035	Health Care Authority	2,173 clients
<b>State Supplemental Payment</b>	Supplemental monthly payments made to SSI recipients who are grandfathered, have an SSI ineligible spouse, are aged 65 and older, blind or receiving certain services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration, or are a foster child receiving specific behavioral services through the Department of Children, Youth and Families who are not eligible for foster care reimbursement under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.	Social Security Administration (SSA) determines SSI eligibility.  Resource limit of \$2,000 for individual and \$3,000 for a couple.	<b>Federal Authority</b> PL 92-603 <b>20 CFR 416 Subpart T</b> <b>State Authority</b> RCW 74.04.630	\$37.5 million GF-S	38,996 cases

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<b>AID FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES</b>					
<b>Refugee Cash Assistance</b>	Provides cash grants to people who have recently resettled in Washington communities as refugees, special immigrants from Iraq or Afghanistan or other humanitarian immigrants. This program is for adults only, families with children are eligible for TANF cash assistance. Recipients can receive cash assistance for a maximum of eight months after they become eligible based on their immigration status.	Same income and resource limits as TANF.	<i>Federal Authority</i> Immigration & Nationality Act, Title IV 8 USC 1522, Refugee Act of 1980, PL 96-212	\$1.9 million GF-F	280 cases
<b>Refugee and Immigrant Services<sup>2</sup></b>	ESA's Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA) administers programs and services to people who have resettled in our communities as refugees and immigrants. ORIA contracts with 60 different providers that specialize in offering culturally and linguistically appropriate services. Contracted providers participate in programs through competitive procurements and include community-based agencies, refugee resettlement agencies, ethnic community-based organizations, public health and federally qualified health centers and local government agencies. Services include comprehensive case management, self-sufficiency education, immigration assistance, refugee medical screening program, Refugee Health Promotion Grant, Refugee Mental Health Services, LEP Pathway employment assistance and English language training, ORIA-BFET Program, employment services for highly educated refugees through the Career Ladder for Educated and Vocationally Experienced Refugees (CLEVER), Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Foster Care Program Refugee School Impact Program, and services for older refugees. ORIA's programs and services aim to build a strong community by providing refugees and immigrants the resources they need to thrive.		<i>Federal Authority</i> Refugee Act of 1980, PL 96-212; ; 45 CFR Part 400	<b>\$32.6 million:</b> \$4.7 million GF-S \$27.9 million GF-F	7,158 unduplicated clients served through ORIA's LEP Pathway and Naturalization Services programs in SFY 2018

<sup>2</sup>Data not yet available for Refugee Services as of the time this report was produced

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<b>AID FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES</b>					
<b>Naturalization Program</b>	Provides assistance to help people who meet the eligibility requirements and are receiving public assistance to apply for U.S. citizenship. ESA's ORIA contracts with providers who are recognized by the Department of Justice to provide services that include assistance with completing the citizenship application, English language and civics classes, assistance with fee waiver requests for application fees and help applying for test exemptions for disabled clients.		<b>State Authority</b> RCW 74.08A.130	\$3.3 million GF-S	2,851 unduplicated clients in SFY 2018 <i>(393 clients per month)</i>
<b>BASIC FOOD PROGRAM</b>					
<b>Basic Food Program</b> <i>(Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP)</i>	Provides food assistance to low-income families and individuals. Benefits are issued through the EBT system and used at participating grocery stores. Benefits are 100 percent federally funded and administrative costs are federally matched at 50 percent. Household size and net income determine benefit level.	Gross income at or below 200 percent FPL for most households.  Households that include someone disqualified for an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet a gross income test at 130 percent FPL.</li> <li>• Meet a net income test of 100 percent FPL.</li> <li>• Have assets below established limits.</li> </ul>	<b>Federal Authority</b> Title 7, CFR Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  <b>State Authority</b> RCW 74.04.500	<i>Non-budgeted, non-allotted</i>  Administrative costs are included in overall ESA program support budget and matched at 50 percent.	526,963 households  <i>(Households with at least one member receiving federal program benefits. Includes mixed cases.)</i>
<b>Basic Food for Legal Immigrants</b> <i>(Food Assistance for Legal Immigrants or FAP)</i>	Provides food assistance to legal immigrants who are ineligible for the federal Basic Food program.  For mixed households of persons eligible for state benefits and others eligible for federal benefits, the program is used to "fill the gap" between the federal benefits the household is eligible to receive and the benefits the household would receive if all household members were eligible for the federal program.	Same as Basic Food.	<b>Federal Authority</b> Title 7, CFR Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  <b>State Authority</b> RCW 74.04.500 RCW 74.08A.120	\$39.8 million GF-S	11,113 households  <i>(Households with at least one member receiving state program benefits. Includes mixed cases.)</i>

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<b>BASIC FOOD PROGRAM</b>					
<b>Basic Food and Employment Training Services</b>	<p>The Washington State Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program provides life skills, job search, job search training, supervised job search, educational services, skills training, community service placements and other employment opportunities on a voluntary basis to Basic Food recipients not participating in the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.</p> <p>BFET is an important part of the state's comprehensive workforce development system serving the needs of low-income individuals, indigent workers and employers by encouraging financial independence from public assistance through personal responsibility and gainful employment.</p>	Receiving federal Basic Food but not receiving TANF.	<b>Federal Authority</b> Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, Public Law 110-246 CFR 273.7, Work Provisions	Program budget for FFY 2019: \$27 million GF-F	<p>6,779 clients including BFET clients served by the Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)</p> <p>Washington is currently operating a statewide BFET program and has developed a strategic plan for further availability of the Education and Training program services.</p> <p>All 34 Washington state community and technical colleges, 56 Regular Community Based Organizations and 13 ORIA Community-based Organizations provide BFET contracted services.</p>
<b>Basic Food Education and Assistance (Outreach)</b>	USDA's Food and Nutrition Service provides federal funding to interested states to finance activities aimed at improving Basic Food participation by eligible households through outreach and education efforts. In Washington state, ESA contracts with public and private nonprofit community organizations to improve awareness of Basic Food for low-income households and assist persons who have difficulty with the application process.	None – for prospective clients.	<b>Federal Authority</b> Section 11(e) (1) (A) of The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008	Outreach Program Budget for FFY 2019: \$3.8 million GF-S & GF-FI)	SNAP – Outreach (Basic Food): For SFY 2018, 35 Basic Food Education and Assistance contractors conduct activities throughout Washington.
<b>SNAP – Ed (Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention)</b>	USDA's Food and Nutrition Service provides federal funding to interested states to finance activities aimed at improving the likelihood that SNAP recipients and other low-income Washington state residents will make healthy choices within a limited budget and choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate.	<p>SNAP participants.</p> <p>Low-income individuals eligible to receive SNAP benefits or other means-tested federal assistance programs.</p> <p>Individuals residing in communities with a significant low-income population.</p>	<b>Federal Authority</b> 7 USC 2020 Sec. 11(f) Nutrition Education; 7 CFR Ch. II, Part 277 Nutrition Education and Training Program	Nutrition Education Program Budget for FFY 2019: \$9.6 million 100 percent federal	SNAP-Ed services are currently contracted with three implementing agencies: Washington State University Extension, Washington State Department of Health and Spokane Regional Health District.

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<b>BASIC FOOD PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>WASHCAP<sup>3</sup></b> <i>(Washington Combined Application Project)</i>	Provides Basic Food Program benefits to SSI recipients who are single and unemployed. Clients can apply through the SSA or by sending a simplified application to the centralized WASHCAP unit. One centralized call center handles all WASHCAP clients.	Same as Basic Food.	<i>Federal demonstration project under agreement with SSA and FNS</i>	WASHCAP budget within overall ESA program support budget (Budget Unit M01)	79,257 cases  <i>(including 59,205 cases served by WASHCAP CSOs, and 20,052 cases mainly served by HCS)</i>
<b>OTHER PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>U.S. Repatriation Program</b>	Provides temporary emergency cash assistance, food, housing, medical and transportation to U.S. citizens and their dependents who have returned or been brought to the United States in cases involving destitution, illness, war, threat of war, invasion or similar crisis, and who are without available resources to return.	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services identifies who qualifies for aid under this program and notifies the state.	<i>Federal Authority</i> Title XI, Section 1113 of Social Security Act; PL 86-571	\$120,000 GF-F	U.S. Repatriation Program serves individuals referred by HHS and their eligibility is limited to the 90 days from return to the country, so there are discrete clients rather than an average monthly caseload.  Between July 2017 and June 2018, DSHS served eleven individual clients. There were no mass evacuation events during that time period.

<sup>3</sup>Caseload data sourced from EMAPS Public Assistance Data WashCap Caseload Summary for June 2018 (9/15/2019 load).

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<b>OTHER PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>Working Family Support (WFS)</b>	Working Family Support (WFS) is a cash program that provides an additional food benefit of up to \$10 to low-income families receiving Basic Food, Food Assistance for Legal Immigrants (FAP) or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA), are working at least 35 hours per week and have a qualifying child within their Basic Food household. Benefits are covered by state funds.	Must be recipients of Basic Food, Food Assistance for Legal Immigrants (FAP) or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) but not receiving TANF.	<i>Federal Authority</i> PL 104-193 & 42 USC 604  <i>State Authority</i> RCW 74.04.050	\$2.4 million GF-S	6,524 cases
<b>NON-GRANT MEDICAL PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>Alien Emergency Medical (AEM)</b>	Provides partial medical coverage for immigrants who would qualify for full-scope Medicaid except for their alien status. Coverage is limited to emergency medical conditions. ESA determines AEM eligibility for individuals age 65 and older; eligibility for all other AEM cases is determined by the state's Health Care Authority (HCA).	Income eligibility is based on rules for related full-scope Medicaid programs (e.g., coverage for families, infants, children, pregnant women and aged, blind or disabled).	<i>Federal Authority</i> 42 U.S.C. Subchapter XIX  <i>State Authority</i> Chapter 74.09 & 74.09A RCW		AEM SSI-related: 135 clients
<b>SSI Medicaid</b>	Aged, blind or disabled persons who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or who are otherwise deemed to be eligible for SSI Medicaid under federal law.	SSA determines eligibility for SSI using income rules based on Title XVI of the Social Security Act.			115,279 clients
<b>SSI-related Medicaid</b>	Low-income aged, blind or disabled persons who do not receive SSI.	Persons with countable income that would qualify them for SSI (\$771 for a single person) are Categorically Needy Medicaid. Those with higher incomes are Medically Needy and may be responsible for medical costs equal to their excess income (spenddown).			CN: 18,016 cases  MN (no spenddown): 3,853 cases  MN (with spenddown): 1,989 cases

<sup>2</sup>Caseload data shown for SSI-related Medicaid reflects averages for SFY 19, prepared by the ESA Management Accountability and Performance Statistics (EMAPS) unit in August 2019

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<b>NON-GRANT MEDICAL PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>Medicare Savings Programs</b>	These programs pay Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductibles for low-income Medicare beneficiaries.	Income limits vary depending on program from 100 percent FPL to 200 percent FPL.			186,412 clients
<b>Refugee Medical Assistance</b>	<p>Refugees may be eligible for medical assistance through the Refugee Medical Assistance program if they are ineligible for MAGI Medicaid due to being over income.</p> <p>Refugee Medical clients have been transitioned to the state's new Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) beginning Oct. 1, 2013 as a result of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).</p> <p>Eligibility ends after the first eight months of residency in United States.</p>	<p>Categorically Needy coverage is available to persons with income that does not exceed 200 percent FPL.</p> <p>Transitional coverage is also provided to those who lose eligibility for RCA due to increased earnings.</p>	<i>Federal Authority</i> Immigration & Nationality Act, Title IV 8 USC 1522, Refugee Act of 1980, PL 96-212		Categorically Needy Coverage: 5 clients