The Department of Social and Health Services’ Economic Services Administration’s Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) program is a federally funded cash assistance program that provides up to eight months of cash assistance to single and married adults without children under the age of 18 who have an eligible immigration status.

Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) is a federally funded medical assistance program available to refugees and eligible immigrants for up to eight months for those who are otherwise ineligible for Washington Apple Health. Since the expansion of Medicaid, less than 1% of all refugee families are ineligible for Washington Apple Health. In an average year, fewer than 50 refugees a year receive RMA.

DSHS seeks to improve the lives of clients receiving RCA by:

- Ensuring refugees receive consistent referrals to employment, education and social service providers.
- Coordinating across systems, agencies and programs by increasing accountability to advance economic security.

Who is eligible for RCA?

- Refugees
- People granted asylum (“asylees”)  
- Certified Victims of Human Trafficking
- Amerasians
- Cuban-Haitian Entrants
- Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders from Iraq and Afghanistan

Who are refugees?

Refugees are individuals and families who are unable to return to their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on their race, religion, ethnicity, membership in a particular group or political opinion. They resettle through the federal U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.

More information: Sarah Peterson, MSW - Chief, Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance - State Refugee Coordinator  
Phone: 360.890.0691  |  Email: petersk@dshs.wa.gov
Refugee Cash Assistance Facts 2018

RCA Caseload by Country of Origin

- Ukraine: 41%
- Afghanistan: 14%
- Russia: 8%
- Eritrea: 10%
- Moldova: 4%
- Ethiopia: 5%
- Countries with less than 10 clients: 18%

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and Community Service Office of Issuance

RCA Caseload 2007-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Monthly Average Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>425</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditures for State Fiscal Year 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Total Caseload</th>
<th>Grant Expenditures</th>
<th>Average Payment Per Case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>$130,604</td>
<td>$308.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>$115,574</td>
<td>$306.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>$101,327</td>
<td>$307.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>$97,826</td>
<td>$309.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>$93,034</td>
<td>$300.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>$83,688</td>
<td>$303.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>$74,160</td>
<td>$301.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>$77,082</td>
<td>$304.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>$69,258</td>
<td>$309.19</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$61,751</td>
<td>$308.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>$61,407</td>
<td>$305.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$61,676</td>
<td>$308.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>$85,616</td>
<td>$305.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and Community Service Office of Issuance

June 2018 Snapshot

- Region 1:
  - Kennewick
  - Moses Lake
  - Spokane Maple
  - Spokane Trent

- Region 2:
  - Federal Way
  - King Eastside
  - King North
  - King South
  - Mt. Vernon
  - Rainier
  - Renton
  - Sky Valley
  - Smokey Point
  - White Center

- Region 3:
  - Columbia River
  - Lakewood
  - Pierce North
  - Pierce South
  - Puyallup Valley
  - Alderwood
  - Auburn
  - Bellingham
  - Belltown
  - Everett
  - Federal Way
  - King Eastside
  - King North
  - King South
  - Mt. Vernon
  - Rainier
  - Renton
  - Sky Valley
  - Smokey Point
  - White Center

- Region 4:
  - Columbia River
  - Lakewood
  - Pierce North
  - Pierce South
  - Puyallup Valley
  - Alderwood
  - Auburn
  - Bellingham
  - Belltown
  - Everett
  - Federal Way
  - King Eastside
  - King North
  - King South
  - Mt. Vernon
  - Rainier
  - Renton
  - Sky Valley
  - Smokey Point
  - White Center