

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

Social Services Manual

Revision # 92

CATEGORY Program Summary – Disability Lifeline

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/manuals/socialservices/sections/MedEvRe.shtml>

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Summary : Updated to include Disability Lifeline pregnancy eligibility

PROGRAM SUMMARY - DISABILITY LIFELINE

Revised October 20, 2010

Purpose: This section describes the general eligibility requirements for assistance for a persons who is are pregnant or unable to work due to incapacity.

[WAC 388-400-0025](#)

Who is eligible for disability lifeline benefits?

WAC 388-400-0025

Effective ~~February 1, 2011~~ September 1, 2010

WAC 388-400-0025 Who is eligible for disability lifeline benefits?

1. Effective March 29, 2010, the "general assistance" program was replaced by "disability lifeline." Any reference in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) to general assistance also applies to disability lifeline.
2. You are eligible for disability lifeline (DL) benefits if you:
 - a. Are pregnant as verified by a medical statement or incapacitated as required under [WAC 388-448-0001 through 388-448-0120](#);
 - b. Are at least eighteen years old or, if under eighteen, a member of a married couple;
 - c. Are in financial need according to DL income and resource rules in chapters [388-450](#), [388-470](#) and [388-488](#) WAC. We determine who is in your assistance unit according to [WAC 388-408-0010](#).
 - d. Meet the disability lifeline citizenship / alien status requirements under WAC 388-424-0015(2).
 - e. Provide a Social Security number as required under WAC [388-476-0005](#);
 - f. Reside in the state of Washington as required under WAC [388-468-0005](#);
 - g. Undergo referrals for assessment, treatment, or to other agencies as provided under [WAC 388-448-0130](#) through [388-448-0150](#);
 - h. Sign an interim assistance reimbursement authorization to agree to repay the monetary value of general assistance or disability lifeline benefits duplicated by supplemental security income benefits as described under WACs [388-448-0200](#), [388-448-0210](#), and [388-474-0020](#);
 - i. Report changes of circumstances as required under WAC [388-418-0005](#); and
 - j. Complete a mid-certification review and provide proof of any changes as required under WAC [388-418-0011](#).
3. You aren't eligible for disability lifeline benefits if you:
 - a. Have received general assistance or disability lifeline benefits for more than the maximum number of months as defined in WAC [388-448-0250](#).
 - b. Are eligible for temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) benefits.
 - c. Are eligible for state family assistance (SFA) benefits.
 - d. Refuse or fail to meet a TANF or SFA eligibility rule.
 - e. Refuse or fail to participate in drug or alcohol treatment as required in [WAC 388-448-0220](#).
 - f. Are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.
 - g. Are an ineligible spouse of an SSI recipient.
 - h. Failed to follow a social security administration (SSA) program rule or application requirement and SSA denied or terminated your benefits.
4. If you reside in a public institution and meet all other requirements, your eligibility for DL depends on the type of institution. A "public institution" is an institution that is supported by public funds, and a governmental unit either is responsible for it or exercises administrative control over it.
 - a. You may be eligible for disability lifeline if you are:

- i. A patient in a public medical institution; or
- ii. A patient in a public mental institution and are:
 - A. Sixty-five years of age or older; or
 - B. Twenty years of age or younger.
- b. You aren't eligible for DL when you are in the custody of or confined in a public institution such as a state penitentiary or county jail including placement;
 - i. In a work release program; or
 - ii. Outside of the institution including home detention.

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

4.

1. Ask about tribal affiliation as Native Americans/Alaska Natives who self identify a tribal affiliation will not be automatically enrolled in Disability Lifeline managed care. See Worker Responsibilities in the [TANF/SFA Time Limits-Indian County Disregard](#) section for instructions on asking about and recording tribal affiliation.
2. Persons who are currently ineligible for TANF due to the non-compliance sanction in [WAC 388-310-1600](#) are not eligible for Disability Lifeline per [WAC 388-400-0025\(2\)\(c\)](#).
3. Persons who are currently ineligible for TANF due to the 60-month time limit are eligible for Disability Lifeline, if they are financially eligible and meet the pregnancy or Incapacity requirements outlined in WAC 388-400-0025.
4. Financial service specialists are responsible for verifying pregnancy and authorizing DL pregnancy benefits (DSHS 14-118 is not needed).
5. If the person does not provide requested pregnancy verification, deny for failure to provide verification (Reason Code 552) using standard free form text.
6. After authorizing DL pregnancy benefits, send a referral to social services indicating DL pregnancy has been authorized (include EDD).
7. Disability Lifeline pregnancy eligibility begins the date pregnancy verification is received and continues to the end of pregnancy.
8. Former TANF recipients who are determined to be disabled and required to file for SSI through the regular DL process may be eligible for a TANF Time Limit Extension.
9. If a person is eligible for a TANF time limit extension, they are not eligible for DL.