

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

**EA-Z Manual**

Revision: # 1126  
Category: **Social Security Numbers (SSN)**  
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**Summary**

Updated Worker Responsibilities for WAC 388-476-0005 (#10- *Refusing to Provide an SSN for Religious Reasons*) to reflect the correct ACES system coding.



**10. Refusing to Provide an SSN for Religious Reasons:**

- a. Personal, cultural, or political beliefs do not qualify as a religious objection to providing an SSN.
- b. If the individual claims religious grounds for refusing to provide or apply for an SSN:
  - i. No negative action should be taken.
  - ii. Use an existing SSN for verification and matching purposes without further notice to the client, if one is already known to the Department.
  - iii. Document the client's statement regarding the religious objection. No further verification is necessary. Continue to ask and document at subsequent eligibility reviews.
  - iv. Code "X" (Refused for Religious Reasons) ~~"N" (No Referral—SSN Application Pending)~~ in the SSA/SSN Referral field on the Client SDEM1-s screen to provide continued eligibility for all programs. Do not use ~~SSN-the~~ Application Date field.