



# RULE-MAKING ORDER

**CR-103E (July 2011)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.350)**

**Agency:** Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Administration

**Emergency Rule Only**

**Effective date of rule:**

**Emergency Rules**

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) April 1, 2017

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

- Yes
  - No
- If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:**

The department is amending WAC 388-492-0070 "How are my WASHCAP food benefits calculated?" in order to increase the high shelter standard from \$400 to \$425.

**Citation of existing rules affected by this order:**

Repealed: None  
 Amended: WAC 388-492-0070  
 Suspended: None

**Statutory authority for adoption:**

RCW 74.04.055, RCW 74.04.057, RCW 74.04.500, RCW 74.04.510, RCW 74.08.090

**Other authority:**

Washington State Combined Application Project (WASHCAP) Demonstration Project Renewal Request Waivers and Requirements.

**EMERGENCY RULE**

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.
- That in order to implement the requirements or reductions in appropriations enacted in any budget for fiscal year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, or 2013, which necessitates the need for the immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the fiscal needs or requirements of the agency.

Reasons for this finding:

Increases access to SNAP benefits for individuals with disabilities.

**Date adopted:**

March 28, 2017

**NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)**

Katherine Vasquez

**SIGNATURE**

**TITLE**

DSHS Rules Coordinator

**CODE REVISER USE ONLY**

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

**DATE: March 31, 2017**

**TIME: 8:26 AM**

**WSR 17-08-049**

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

<b>Federal statute:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Federal rules or standards:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Recently enacted state statutes:</b>	New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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**The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:**

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

<b>Negotiated rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Pilot rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Other alternative rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____

**WAC 388-492-0070 How are my WASHCAP food benefits calculated?**

We calculate your Washington state combined application project (WASHCAP) food benefits as follows:

- (1) We begin with your gross income.
- (2) We subtract the current standard deduction for one person under WAC 388-450-0185 from your gross income to get your countable income.
- (3) We figure your shelter cost based on information we receive from the Social Security Administration (SSA) unless you report a change as described under WAC 388-492-0080.
  - (a) If you pay three hundred twenty dollars or more a month for shelter, we use four hundred twenty-five dollars as your shelter cost.
  - (b) If you pay less than three hundred twenty dollars a month for shelter, we use two hundred and thirty-five dollars as your shelter cost.
  - (c) We add the current standard utility allowance under WAC 388-450-0195 to the shelter cost we use under either (~~subsection (3)~~)(a) or (b) of this (~~section~~) subsection to determine your total shelter cost.
- (4) We figure your shelter deduction by subtracting one half of your countable income from your total shelter cost under subsection (3)(c) of this section.
- (5) We figure your net income by subtracting your shelter deduction from your countable income and rounding the resulting figure up from fifty cents and down from forty-nine cents to the nearest whole dollar.
  - (6) We figure your WASHCAP food benefits (allotment) by:
    - (a) Multiplying your net income by thirty percent and rounding up to the next whole dollar; and
    - (b) Subtracting the result from the maximum allotment under WAC 388-478-0060.
- (7) If you are eligible for WASHCAP, you will get at least the minimum monthly benefit for basic food under WAC 388-412-0015.