



# RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

## CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: December 27, 2023

TIME: 12:06 PM

WSR 24-02-041

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

**Effective date of rule:**

**Emergency Rules**

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) 01/01/2024

**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 adopting emergency amendments to WAC 388-478-0055 *"How much do I get from my state supplemental payments (SSP)?"* These amendments clarify the cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) to state supplemental payment (SSP) standards for medically institutionalized recipients of SSI, as determined by the Social Security Administration.

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

- New: None
- Repealed: None
- Amended: WAC 388-478-0055
- Suspended: None

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.500, 74.04.510, 74.08.090, 74.08A.120, and 74.08A.250

**Other authority:** RCW 74.09.340

**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.

**Reasons for this finding:** RCW 74.09.340 requires the residential personal needs allowance (PNA) for medically institutionalized individuals to be adjusted according to the percentage of COLA determined by SSA. These amendments clarify how this impacts recipients of SSP.

**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:**

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____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	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

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

New \_\_\_\_ Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed \_\_\_\_

**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

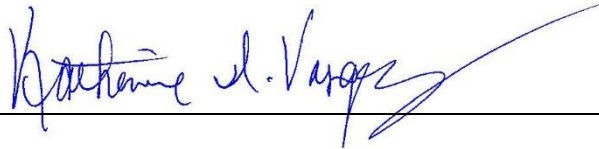
New \_\_\_\_ Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed \_\_\_\_

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

New \_\_\_\_ Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed \_\_\_\_

**The number of sections adopted using:**

Negotiated rule making:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____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

<b>Date Adopted:</b> December 27, 2023	<b>Signature:</b> 
<b>Name:</b> Katherine I. Vasquez	
<b>Title:</b> DSHS Rules Coordinator	

**WAC 388-478-0055 How much do I get from my state supplemental payments (SSP)?** (1) The SSP is a state-funded cash assistance program issued to certain individuals who the Social Security Administration (SSA) determines are eligible for supplemental security income (SSI) as described in WAC 388-474-0012.

(2) Monthly SSP rate standards for eligible persons as described in WAC 388-474-0012 are:

(a) \$38.25 for:

(i) Individuals with an ineligible spouse;

(ii) Aged 65 and older;

(iii) Blind as determined by SSA; or

(iv) Disabled as determined by SSA.

(b) Between \$0.54 and \$199.77 for grandfathered clients as defined in 388-474-0001 and varies by individual based on federal requirements.

(c) \$70.00 as of July 2023 for individuals residing in a medical institution. It is based on increasing the federal SSI personal needs allowance (PNA) of \$30.00 up to the current Washington state institutional PNA standard described in subsection (5) of WAC 182-513-1105. Starting January 1, 2024, this payment increases annually by a cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) determined by SSA. The current state PNA standard for institutional apple health is located at <https://www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/i-help-others-apply-and-access-apple-health/program-standard-income-and-resources>.

(3) A change in living situation, cost-of-living-adjustment ((~~COLA~~)), or federal benefit rate (FBR) can affect a grandfathered client. A grandfathered client gets a federal SSI payment and a SSP payment, which totals the higher of one of the following:

(a) The state assistance standard set in December 1973, unless you lived in a medical institution at the time of conversion, plus the federal COLA since then; or

(b) The current payment standard.

(4) SSP rate standards may be adjusted at the end of the calendar year to comply with WAC 388-478-0057.