



Rulemaking Meeting #4
Beneficiaries: Applying for
Services and Eligibility Criteria

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Agenda

- Housekeeping / Common terms
- Eligibility criteria and applying for services
- Discussion

Housekeeping

- Please use Q&A feature to ask questions during the presentation
- Chat will open for discussion at the end of the presentation
- The recording of this webinar will be made available at <https://wacaresfund.wa.gov/rulemaking>
- Next meeting: May 8th 2pm-4pm to discuss assessment and functional eligibility criteria

Purpose

- The purpose of this meeting is to hear ideas from the public about rulemaking for DSHS WA Cares rulemaking.
- Please direct program questions to WACares@dshs.wa.gov

Common terms

Department of Social and Health Services	DSHS
Employment Security Department	ESD
Health Care Authority	HCA
Long-term services and supports	LTSS
Revised Code of Washington	RCW
Washington Cares Fund / WA Cares Fund	WCF
Washington Administrative Code	WAC



Eligibility

RCW 50B.04.010(6)

- (15) "Qualified individual" means an individual who meets the duration of payment requirements, as established in this chapter.
- (6) "Eligible beneficiary" means a qualified individual who is age eighteen or older, residing in the state of Washington, has been determined to meet the minimum level of assistance with activities of daily living necessary to receive benefits through the trust program, as established in this chapter, and has not exhausted the lifetime limit of benefit units.

RCW 50B.04.060(2)(a)(i)

- Except for qualified individuals residing outside of Washington as provided in (a)(ii) of this subsection, beginning July 1, 2026, a qualified individual may become an eligible beneficiary by filing an application with the department of social and health services and undergoing an eligibility determination which includes an evaluation that the individual requires assistance with at least three activities of daily living.

Activities of daily living*

- Mobility
- Bed Mobility
- Transferring
- Eating
- Medication management
- Toileting
- Bathing

*Supervision, cueing or reminders to complete an activity of daily living due to cognitive impairment will also be considered

RCW 50B.04.060(2)(a)(ii)

- For a qualified individual residing outside of Washington, beginning January 1, 2030, the out-of-state qualified individual may become an eligible beneficiary by filing an application with the department of social and health services and undergoing an eligibility determination. The eligibility determination must include an evaluation that the individual either (A) is unable to perform, without substantial assistance from another individual, at least two of the following activities of daily living for a period of at least 90 days due to a loss of functional capacity: Eating, toileting, transferring, bathing, dressing, or continence, or (B) requires substantial supervision to protect such individual from threats to health and safety due to severe cognitive impairments.

90-day forward certification of need

- The 90-day forward certification of need finds that an applicant requires assistance with three out of seven activities of daily living for a minimum of 90-days due to a loss of functional or cognitive ability.

RCW 50B.04.060(2)(b)

- The department of social and health services must engage sufficient qualified assessor capacity, including via contract, so that the determination may be made within 45 days from receipt of a request by a beneficiary to use a benefit.



Discussion

Discussion

- What do you think is important to keep in mind when drafting rules on applying for services and eligibility criteria?
- What accessibility and equity considerations come to mind regarding rules for applying for services and eligibility criteria?

Discussion

- Regarding rulemaking for the 90-day forward certification of need, what do you think is important for WA Cares to consider?

Discussion

- What do you think is important for WA Cares to consider regarding the 45 days to process the application as it relates to rulemaking?

Discussion

- What barriers do you want WA Cares to be aware of regarding identification verification?

Discussion

- What do you hope you or others experience when applying for WA Cares services?

Resources

- DSHS website: <https://wacaresfund.wa.gov/rulemaking>
- ESD website: <https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/rulemaking/ltss>
- HCA website: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/rulemaking>
- Questions related to the WA Cares program, please email WACares@dshs.wa.gov



Thank you!

We look forward to continuing this discussion in upcoming meetings

Questions about the WA Cares Fund rulemaking process?

Contact Arielle Finney at Arielle.Finney2@dshs.wa.gov

Questions about the WA Cares Fund program?

Contact the WA Cares Fund Customer Care Team at WACares@dshs.wa.gov