***(Effective until October 1, 2026)***

**WAC 388-493-0010 Working family support.** (1) What is the working family support (WFS) program?

The working family support program is administered by the department of social and health services (department) and provides an additional monthly food benefit to low income families who meet specific criteria. Continuance of the program is contingent on specific legislative funding for the working family support program.

(2) The following definitions apply to this program:

(a) "Co-parent" means another adult in your home who is related to your qualifying child through birth or adoption.

(b) "Qualifying child" means a child under the age of 18 who is:

(i) Your child through birth or adoption; or

(ii) Your step-child.

(c) "Work" means subsidized or unsubsidized employment or self-employment. To determine self-employment hours, we divide your net self-employment income by the federal minimum wage.

(3) Who is eligible for the working family support program?

You may be eligible for working family support food assistance if you meet all of the following:

(a) You receive food assistance through basic food, food assistance program for legal immigrants (FAP), or transitional food assistance (TFA);

(b) Receipt of working family support food assistance would not cause your countable food assistance income to exceed the 200 percent federal poverty level (FPL);

(c) No one in your food assistance unit receives temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) or state family assistance (SFA);

(d) A qualifying child lives in your home;

(e) You, your spouse, or co-parent work a minimum of 35 hours a week, and if you live with your spouse or co-parent, you must be in the same assistance unit;

(f) You provide proof of the number of hours worked; and

(g) You reside in Washington state as required under WAC 388-468-0005.

(4) How may I apply for working family support?

(a) The department will review your eligibility for the working family support program:

(i) When you apply for food assistance, or

(ii) At the time of your food assistance eligibility review.

(b) You may request the working family support benefit in person, in writing, or by phone at any time.

(5) How long may I receive working family support?

(a) You may recertify up to an additional six months for working family support if you meet the criteria listed in subsection (3) of this section and provide current proof that you, your spouse, or co-parent works a minimum of 35 hours a week.

(b) Working family support certification ends when:

(i) You complete either a certification or mid-certification review for food assistance under WAC 388-434-0010 or 388-418-0011, and you do not provide proof of the number of hours that you, your spouse, or your co-parent work;

(ii) You no longer receive basic food, FAP, or TFA;

(iii) You receive TANF or SFA;

(iv) You do not have a qualifying child in your home;

(v) You, your spouse, or co-parent no longer work a minimum of 35 hours a week; or

(vi) You are no longer a resident of Washington state.

(6) What benefits will I receive if I am eligible for the working family support program?

(a) The assistance unit will receive a separate $10 monthly food assistance benefit each month.

(b) Working family support benefits are not prorated.

(7) Enrollment in the working family support program is limited to 10,000 households per month.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, and 2022 c 297 § 205 (1)(c). WSR 22-19-095, § 388-493-0010, filed 9/21/22, effective 10/22/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090 and 2019 c 415. WSR 20-16-133, § 388-493-0010, filed 8/3/20, effective 9/3/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.040.055 [74.04.055], 74.04.057, 74.08.090 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 1. WSR 17-23-050, § 388-493-0010, filed 11/9/17, effective 12/10/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, and 74.08.090. WSR 17-07-012, § 388-493-0010, filed 3/6/17, effective 4/6/17; WSR 16-08-034, § 388-493-0010, filed 3/30/16, effective 5/1/16.]

***(Effective October 1, 2026)***

**WAC 388-493-0010 Working family support.** (1) What is the working family support (WFS) program?

WFS is administered by the department of social and health services and provides an additional monthly food benefit to low income families who meet specific criteria. Continuance of the program is contingent on specific legislative funding for WFS.

(2) The following definitions apply to this program:

(a) "Single-parent" refers to an adult household member with qualifying children in the home and no spouse or co-parent within the home.

(b) "Co-parent" means another adult in your home who is related to your qualifying child through marriage, birth, or adoption.

(c) "Qualifying child" means a child under the age of 18 who is:

(i) Your child through birth or adoption; or

(ii) Your step-child.

(c) "Work" means subsidized or unsubsidized employment or self-employment. To determine self-employment hours, we divide your net self-employment income by the federal minimum wage.

(3) Who is eligible for WFS?

You may be eligible for WFS if you meet all of the following:

(a) You receive food assistance through basic food, food assistance program for legal immigrants (FAP), or transitional food assistance (TFA);

(b) Receipt of WFS would not cause your countable food assistance income to exceed the 200 percent federal poverty level (FPL);

(c) No one in your food assistance unit receives temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) or state family assistance (SFA);

(d) You are a single parent;

(e) A qualifying child lives in your home;

(f) You work a minimum of 30 hours a week;

(g) You provide proof of the number of hours worked; and

(h) You reside in Washington state as required under WAC 388-468-0005.

(4) How may I apply for WFS?

(a) The department will review your eligibility for WFS:

(i) When you apply for food assistance, or

(ii) At the time of your food assistance eligibility review.

(b) You may request WFS in person, in writing, or by phone at any time.

(5) How long may I receive WFS?

(a) You may recertify up to an additional six months for WFS if you meet the criteria listed in subsection (3) of this section and provide current proof that you work a minimum of 30 hours a week.

(b) WFS certification ends when:

(i) You complete either a certification or mid-certification review for food assistance under WAC 388-434-0010 or 388-418-0011, and you do not provide proof of the number of hours that you work;

(ii) You no longer receive basic food, FAP, or TFA;

(iii) You receive TANF or SFA;

(iv) Your spouse or the co-parent of your child moves into the home;

(v) You no longer have a qualifying child in your home;

(vi) You no longer work a minimum of 30 hours a week; or

(vii) You are no longer a resident of Washington state.

(6) What benefits will I receive if I am eligible for WFS?

(a) The assistance unit will receive a separate $35 monthly food assistance benefit each month.

(b) WFS benefits are not prorated.

(7) The department may discontinue program benefits issuances during periods of time when state funds appropriated for WFS are exhausted.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.005, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.820, 74.08.090, 74.08A.120, 74.09.035, and 2026 c 268. WSR 26-15-096, s 388-493-0010, filed 7/20/26, effective 10/1/26. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, and 2022 c 297 § 205 (1)(c). WSR 22-19-095, § 388-493-0010, filed 9/21/22, effective 10/22/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090 and 2019 c 415. WSR 20-16-133, § 388-493-0010, filed 8/3/20, effective 9/3/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.040.055 [74.04.055], 74.04.057, 74.08.090 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 1. WSR 17-23-050, § 388-493-0010, filed 11/9/17, effective 12/10/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, and 74.08.090. WSR 17-07-012, § 388-493-0010, filed 3/6/17, effective 4/6/17; WSR 16-08-034, § 388-493-0010, filed 3/30/16, effective 5/1/16.]