

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1603

Chapter 343, Laws of 2019

66th Legislature
2019 Regular Session

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS--TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY
FAMILIES--VARIOUS PROVISIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 28, 2019

Passed by the House April 18, 2019
Yeas 55 Nays 39

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 15, 2019
Yeas 35 Nays 13

CYRUS HABIB

President of the Senate

Approved May 9, 2019 3:00 PM

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1603** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

Chief Clerk

FILED

May 13, 2019

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1603

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Senn, Entenman, Morgan, Kilduff, Macri, Gregerson, Valdez, Chapman, Wylie, Peterson, Doglio, Tharinger, Bergquist, Robinson, Ortiz-Self, Goodman, Lovick, Jinkins, Leavitt, Hudgins, Pettigrew, Slatter, Appleton, Stanford, Davis, Frame, Pollet, Fey, and Tarleton)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to revising economic assistance programs by
2 updating standards of need, revising outcome measures and data
3 collected, and reducing barriers to participation; amending RCW
4 74.08.025, 74.08A.010, 74.08A.410, 74.08A.411, and 74.08A.250; and
5 creating new sections.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08.025 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 42 s 7 are each
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (1) Public assistance may be awarded to any applicant:

10 (a) Who is in need and otherwise meets the eligibility
11 requirements of department assistance programs; and

12 (b) Who has not made a voluntary assignment of property or cash
13 for the purpose of qualifying for an assistance grant; and

14 (c) Who is not an inmate of a public institution except as a
15 patient in a medical institution or except as an inmate in a public
16 institution who could qualify for federal aid assistance: PROVIDED,
17 That the assistance paid by the department to recipients in nursing
18 homes, or receiving nursing home care, may cover the cost of clothing
19 and incidentals and general maintenance exclusive of medical care and
20 health services. The department may pay a grant to cover the cost of
21 clothing and personal incidentals in public or private medical

1 institutions and institutions for tuberculosis. The department shall
2 allow recipients in nursing homes to retain, in addition to the grant
3 to cover the cost of clothing and incidentals, wages received for
4 work as a part of a training or rehabilitative program designed to
5 prepare the recipient for less restrictive placement to the extent
6 permitted under Title XIX of the federal social security act.

7 ~~(2) ((Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for
8 needy families under this title who has resided in the state of
9 Washington for fewer than twelve consecutive months immediately
10 preceding application for assistance is limited to the benefit level
11 in the state in which the person resided immediately before
12 Washington, using the eligibility rules and other definitions
13 established under this chapter, that was obtainable on the date of
14 application in Washington state, if the benefit level of the prior
15 state is lower than the level provided to similarly situated
16 applicants in Washington state. The benefit level under this
17 subsection shall be in effect for the first twelve months a recipient
18 is on temporary assistance for needy families in Washington state.~~

19 ~~(3))~~ Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for
20 needy families who is assessed through the state alcohol and
21 substance abuse program as drug or alcohol-dependent and requiring
22 treatment to become employable shall be required by the department to
23 participate in a drug or alcohol treatment program as a condition of
24 benefit receipt.

25 ~~((4) The department may implement a permanent disqualification
26 for adults who have been terminated due to WorkFirst noncompliance
27 sanction three or more times since March 1, 2007. A household that
28 includes an adult who has been permanently disqualified from
29 receiving temporary assistance for needy families shall be ineligible
30 for further temporary assistance for needy families assistance.~~

31 ~~(5))~~ (3) Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 862a(d)(1), the department shall
32 exempt individuals from the eligibility restrictions of 21 U.S.C.
33 862a(a)(1) and (2) to ensure eligibility for temporary assistance for
34 needy families benefits and federal food assistance.

35 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08A.010 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 42 s 6 are each
36 amended to read as follows:

37 (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary
38 assistance for needy families for sixty months after July 27, 1997,

1 shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy
2 families assistance.

3 (2) For the purposes of applying the rules of this section, the
4 department shall count any month in which an adult family member
5 received a temporary assistance for needy families cash assistance
6 grant unless the assistance was provided when the adult family member
7 was a minor child and not the head of the household or married to the
8 head of the household.

9 (3) The department shall adopt regulations to apply the sixty-
10 month time limit to households in which a parent is in the home and
11 ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families. Any
12 regulations shall be consistent with federal funding requirements.

13 (4) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized
14 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims'
15 programs through the department of commerce, or the crime victims'
16 compensation program of the department of labor and industries.

17 (5) (a) The department ~~((may))~~ shall add to adopted rules related
18 to temporary assistance for needy families time limit extensions, the
19 following criteria by which the department shall exempt a recipient
20 and the recipient's family from the application of subsection (1) of
21 this section:

22 (i) By reason of hardship ((or)), including if the recipient is a
23 homeless person as described in RCW 43.185C.010; or

24 (ii) If the family includes an individual who meets the family
25 violence options of section 402(A)(7) of Title IVA of the federal
26 social security act as amended by P.L. 104-193.

27 (b) Policies related to circumstances under which a recipient
28 will be exempted from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of
29 this section shall treat adults receiving benefits on their own
30 behalf, and parents receiving benefits on behalf of their child
31 similarly, unless required otherwise under federal law.

32 (6) The department shall not exempt a recipient and his or her
33 family from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of this section
34 until after the recipient has received fifty-two months of assistance
35 under this chapter.

36 (7) ~~((Beginning on October 31, 2005,))~~ The department shall
37 provide transitional food ~~((stamp))~~ assistance for a period of five
38 months to a household that ceases to receive temporary assistance for
39 needy families assistance and is not in sanction status. If

1 necessary, the department shall extend the household's basic food
2 (~~stamp~~) certification until the end of the transition period.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.08A.410 and 1997 c 58 s 702 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The WorkFirst program shall develop outcome measures for use
6 in evaluating the WorkFirst program authorized in chapter 58, Laws of
7 1997, which may include but are not limited to:

8 (a) Caseload reduction, including data for participants who exit:
9 (i) Due to increased income; (ii) to employment; (iii) at the
10 participant's request; or (iv) for other reasons;

11 (b) Recidivism to caseload after two years;

12 (c) Employment;

13 (d) Job retention;

14 (~~(d)~~) (e) Earnings;

15 (~~(e)~~) (f) Wage progression;

16 (g) Reduction in average grant through increased recipient
17 earnings; (~~and~~

18 (f)) (h) Placement of recipients into private sector,
19 unsubsidized jobs; and

20 (i) Outcomes for sanctioned and time-limited families.

21 (2) The department shall require that contractors for WorkFirst
22 services collect outcome measure information and report outcome
23 measures to the department regularly. The department shall develop
24 benchmarks that compare outcome measure information from all
25 contractors to provide a clear indication of the most effective
26 contractors. Benchmark information shall be published quarterly and
27 provided to the legislature, the governor, the legislative-executive
28 WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task force, and all contractors
29 for WorkFirst services.

30 **Sec. 4.** RCW 74.08A.411 and 2009 c 85 s 3 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 The department shall continue to implement WorkFirst program
33 improvements that are designed to achieve progress against outcome
34 measures specified in RCW 74.08A.410. Outcome data regarding job
35 retention and wage progression shall be reported quarterly to the
36 appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the legislature and to
37 the legislative-executive WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task
38 force for families who leave assistance for any reason, measured

1 after twelve months, twenty-four months, and thirty-six months. The
2 department shall also report the percentage of families who have
3 returned to temporary assistance for needy families after twelve
4 months, twenty-four months, and thirty-six months. The department
5 shall make every effort to maximize vocational training, as allowed
6 by federal and state requirements.

7 **Sec. 5.** RCW 74.08A.250 and 2017 c 156 s 1 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, as used in this
10 chapter, "work activity" means:

- 11 (1) Unsubsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;
- 12 (2) Subsidized paid employment in the private or public sector,
13 including employment through the state or federal work-study program
14 for a period not to exceed twenty-four months;
- 15 (3) Work experience, including:
 - 16 (a) An internship or practicum, that is paid or unpaid and is
17 required to complete a course of vocational training or to obtain a
18 license or certificate in a high-demand occupation, as determined by
19 the employment security department. No internship or practicum shall
20 exceed twelve months; or
 - 21 (b) Work associated with the refurbishing of publicly assisted
22 housing, if sufficient paid employment is not available;
- 23 (4) On-the-job training;
- 24 (5) Job search and job readiness assistance;
- 25 (6) Community service programs, including a recipient's voluntary
26 service at a child care or preschool facility licensed under chapter
27 (~~43.215~~) 43.216 RCW or an elementary school in which his or her
28 child is enrolled;
- 29 (7) Vocational educational training, not to exceed twelve months
30 with respect to any individual except that this twelve-month limit
31 may be increased to twenty-four months subject to funding
32 appropriated specifically for this purpose;
- 33 (8) Job skills training directly related to employment;
- 34 (9) Education directly related to employment, in the case of a
35 recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a high school
36 equivalency certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536;
- 37 (10) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course
38 of study leading to a high school equivalency certificate as provided

1 in RCW 28B.50.536, in the case of a recipient who has not completed
2 secondary school or received such a certificate;

3 (11) The provision of child care services to an individual who is
4 participating in a community service program;

5 (12) Internships, that shall be paid or unpaid work experience
6 performed by an intern in a business, industry, or government or
7 nongovernmental agency setting;

8 (13) Practicums, which include any educational program in which a
9 student is working under the close supervision of a professional in
10 an agency, clinic, or other professional practice setting for
11 purposes of advancing their skills and knowledge;

12 (14) Services required by the recipient under RCW
13 74.08.025(~~(+3)~~) (2) and 74.08A.010(4) to become employable;

14 (15) Financial literacy activities designed to be effective in
15 assisting a recipient in becoming self-sufficient and financially
16 stable; and

17 (16) Parent education services or programs that support
18 development of appropriate parenting skills, life skills, and
19 employment-related competencies.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act applies prospectively only and
21 not retroactively. Prospective application of this act allows
22 families who have been previously permanently disqualified under
23 prior policies to receive benefits prospectively only, if otherwise
24 eligible.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for the purposes of
26 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
27 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
28 act is null and void.

Passed by the House April 18, 2019.
Passed by the Senate April 15, 2019.
Approved by the Governor May 9, 2019.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 13, 2019.

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