Chapter 388-280 WAC

UNITED STATES REPATRIATION PROGRAM

WAC 388-280-0010 What is the United States Repatriation Program? The United States Repatriation Program assists a U.S. citizen or dependent who is:

(1) Without financial resources; and
(2) Returned or brought back to the U.S. from a foreign country because of:
   (a) Mental illness; or
   (b) Destitution, physical illness, or a crisis such as war.

For the purposes of this chapter, "we" and "us" means the department of social and health services.

WAC 388-280-0020 How do I apply for repatriation assistance? You apply for repatriation assistance by contacting the U.S. State Department or us.

(1) If you contact the U.S. State Department, we consider a referral from them as an approved application.
(2) If you contact us directly, we apply for you to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

WAC 388-280-0030 Do I have to repay the repatriation assistance? Repatriation assistance is a loan. You, or your representative if you are mentally ill, must:

(1) Sign a statement recognizing repatriation assistance as a loan; and
(2) Agree to repay the funds.

WAC 388-280-0040 Are there limits to my income and resources? You are ineligible to receive repatriation assistance if you have nonexempt:

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(a) Income, as defined by temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) equal to or greater than the TANF need standards as described in WAC 388-450-005; or
(b) Resources, as defined by TANF under WAC 388-470-0005 that are available to meet your resettlement needs.
(2) We consider a resource available to you when:
(a) The value can be determined;
(b) It is controlled by you; and
(c) You can use the resource to meet your needs.

WAC 388-280-0050 How long can I receive repatriation assistance? (1) If you are mentally ill, you receive temporary care until you:
(a) Can be released to the care of a relative or state agency; or
(b) Are discharged or granted release from hospitalization.
(2) If you are not mentally ill, you may receive repatriation assistance up to twelve months as follows:
(a) "Temporary assistance" meaning repatriation assistance provided during the first ninety days after you return to the United States.
(b) "Extended assistance" meaning repatriation assistance provided for up to nine months after the end of your temporary assistance. We must have approval in advance from HHS, so you must ask us to apply for extended assistance while receiving temporary assistance and be:
(i) Ineligible for any other assistance program; and
(ii) Unable to support or care for yourself due to age, illness, or lack of job skills.

WAC 388-280-0060 What services are available to me under the repatriation program? (1) The HHS sets limits on how much we pay for repatriation assistance. The limits are:
(a) The temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) payment standards under WAC 388-478-0015 for goods and services to meet basic needs;
(b) Up to five hundred sixty dollars per person to meet resettlement costs, if necessary, and for only one month while you receive temporary assistance.
(2) Within payment limits, repatriation assistance includes:
(a) Travel to your place of residence, limited to:
(i) One domestic trip at the lowest fare and using the most direct means;
(ii) Meals and lodging while you are traveling;
(iii) Money for incidentals; and
(iv) If you are ill or disabled, travel expenses for an escort.
(b) Goods and services necessary for your health and welfare, including:
(i) Transportation for medical treatment, hospitalization or social services;
(ii) Temporary shelter;
(iii) Meals;
(iv) Clothing;
(v) Hospitalization to treat mental or acute illness or other medical care; and
(vi) Guidance, counseling and other social services.
(c) Resettlement costs, including:
(i) Utility or housing deposits; and
(ii) Basic household goods, such as cookware or blankets.

Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090. WSR 00-19-077, § 388-280-0040, filed 9/19/00, effective 11/1/00.
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