

Chapter 388-452 WAC
INTERVIEW REQUIREMENTS

Last Update: 12/14/22

WAC

388-452-0005
388-452-0010

Do I have to be interviewed in order to get cash and basic food benefits?
What does the family violence option mean for TANF/SFA recipients?

WAC 388-452-0005 Do I have to be interviewed in order to get cash and basic food benefits? (1) You or your authorized representative must have an interview with the department:

(a) At initial certification, unless you meet requirements in subsection (9) of this section; and

(b) At least once every 12 months, unless you meet the requirements in subsections (8)(b) or (9) of this section.

(2) You will have just one interview even if you are applying for or are having a review for benefits from more than one program.

(3) We hold interviews either in person or over the phone.

(4) If we do not interview you on the same day that we receive your application, we will schedule an interview appointment for you or have you contact us by phone during our business hours to complete your interview.

(5) If we schedule an interview, we will set your appointment to allow you at least 10 days after the interview to provide needed verification:

(a) Before the end of the 30-day processing period for applications; or

(b) Before your certification period ends for eligibility reviews or recertifications.

(6) If you miss your first interview and ask for another interview within 30 days of the date you applied for benefits, we schedule a second interview or have you call us and complete the interview over the phone.

(7) If you must have an interview for benefits, you or someone who can give us the information we need about your AU must participate in the interview. You may ask any person you choose to help with your interview.

(8) For basic food only:

(a) Your authorized representative as described in WAC 388-460-0005 may take your place during your interview.

(b) We may waive the interview requirement at recertification if the household meets the elderly simplified application project (ESAP) criteria:

(i) All members of the household are elderly or disabled, as defined in WAC 388-400-0040;

(ii) No mandatory or applying household members have earned income;

(iii) The paper or electronic eligibility review is complete;

(iv) The household has provided all necessary verification or the verification is available through interfaces available to the department; and

(v) No information provided is unclear or incomplete requiring a request for verification.

(9) For ABD cash assistance, we waive the interview requirement at application and recertification if you reside in a public institution, as defined in WAC 182-500-0050.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.005, 74.04.0052, 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510, 74.04.655, 74.04.770, 74.04.805, 74.08.025, 74.08.043, 74.08.090, 74.08.335, 74.08A.100, 74.62.030, and 2022 c 297 205(22). WSR 23-01-057, § 388-452-0005, filed 12/14/22, effective 1/14/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, and 74.08.090. WSR 20-14-090, § 388-452-0005, filed 6/30/20, effective 8/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, 74.04.510, and 2011 1st sp.s. c 15. WSR 13-18-006, § 388-452-0005, filed 8/22/13, effective 10/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.500, 74.04.510, 74.04.515, 74.08.090, 74.08A.120, 74.08A.903, and 7 C.F.R. 273.9. WSR 10-01-165, § 388-452-0005, filed 12/22/09, effective 1/22/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510. WSR 04-10-102, § 388-452-0005, filed 5/4/04, effective 7/1/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510, and 7 C.F.R. 273.2(e). WSR 03-18-113, § 388-452-0005, filed 9/2/03, effective 11/1/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057, 74.04.510, and 74.08.090. WSR 02-14-023, § 388-452-0005, filed 6/21/02, effective 7/1/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, and 74.09.530. WSR 01-14-060, § 388-452-0005, filed 6/29/01, effective 8/1/01; WSR 00-22-087, § 388-452-0005, filed 10/31/00, effective 12/1/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.057, 74.08.090, 74.09.530 and 42 C.F.R. 435.907. WSR 99-11-075, § 388-452-0005, filed 5/18/99, effective 6/18/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057 and 74.08.090. WSR 98-16-044, § 388-452-0005, filed 7/31/98, effective 9/1/98. Formerly WAC 388-504-0420.]

WAC 388-452-0010 What does the family violence option mean for TANF/SFA recipients? The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), gave every state the option to have procedures in place to address issues of family violence for recipients receiving temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) or state family assistance (SFA).

(1) For TANF/SFA, it is family violence when a recipient, or family member or household member has been subjected by another family member or household member as defined in RCW 26.50.010(2) to one of the following:

- (a) Physical acts that resulted in, or threatened to result in, physical injury;
- (b) Sexual abuse;
- (c) Sexual activity involving a dependent child;
- (d) Being forced as the caretaker relative or a dependent child to engage in nonconsensual sexual acts or activities;
- (e) Threats of or attempts at, physical sexual abuse;
- (f) Mental abuse;
- (g) Neglect or deprivation of medical care; or
- (h) Stalking.

(2) Under the family violence option DSHS must:

- (a) Screen and identify TANF/SFA recipients for a history of family violence;
- (b) Notify TANF/SFA recipients about the family violence option both verbally and in writing;
- (c) Maintain confidentiality as stated in RCW 74.04.060;
- (d) Offer referral to social services or other resources for recipients who meet the criteria in subsection (1) of this section;

(e) Waive WorkFirst requirements in cases where the requirements would make it more difficult to escape family violence, unfairly penalize victims of family violence or place victims at further risk. Requirements to be waived may include:

(i) Time limits for TANF/SFA recipients, for as long as necessary (after fifty-two months of receiving TANF/SFA);

(ii) Cooperation with the division of child support.

(f) Develop specialized work activities for instances where participation in regular work activities would place the recipient at further risk of family violence.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.08.090, 74.08A.340. WSR 06-03-048, § 388-452-0010, filed 1/10/06, effective 2/10/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057 and 74.08.090. WSR 98-16-044, § 388-452-0010, filed 7/31/98, effective 9/1/98.]