

2SHB 1603 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation

OUT OF ORDER 04/15/2019

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

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

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

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

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

10 (c) Who is not an inmate of a public institution except as a
11 patient in a medical institution or except as an inmate in a public
12 institution who could qualify for federal aid assistance: PROVIDED,
13 That the assistance paid by the department to recipients in nursing
14 homes, or receiving nursing home care, may cover the cost of clothing
15 and incidentals and general maintenance exclusive of medical care and
16 health services. The department may pay a grant to cover the cost of
17 clothing and personal incidentals in public or private medical
18 institutions and institutions for tuberculosis. The department shall
19 allow recipients in nursing homes to retain, in addition to the grant
20 to cover the cost of clothing and incidentals, wages received for
21 work as a part of a training or rehabilitative program designed to
22 prepare the recipient for less restrictive placement to the extent
23 permitted under Title XIX of the federal social security act.

24 (2) ~~((Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for
25 needy families under this title who has resided in the state of
26 Washington for fewer than twelve consecutive months immediately
27 preceding application for assistance is limited to the benefit level
28 in the state in which the person resided immediately before
29 Washington, using the eligibility rules and other definitions
30 established under this chapter, that was obtainable on the date of
31 application in Washington state, if the benefit level of the prior~~

1 state is lower than the level provided to similarly situated
2 applicants in Washington state. The benefit level under this
3 subsection shall be in effect for the first twelve months a recipient
4 is on temporary assistance for needy families in Washington state.

5 ~~(3))~~ Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for
6 needy families who is assessed through the state alcohol and
7 substance abuse program as drug or alcohol-dependent and requiring
8 treatment to become employable shall be required by the department to
9 participate in a drug or alcohol treatment program as a condition of
10 benefit receipt.

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

17 ~~(5))~~ (3) Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 862a(d)(1), the department shall
18 exempt individuals from the eligibility restrictions of 21 U.S.C.
19 862a(a)(1) and (2) to ensure eligibility for temporary assistance for
20 needy families benefits and federal food assistance.

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

23 (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary
24 assistance for needy families for sixty months after July 27, 1997,
25 shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy
26 families assistance.

27 (2) For the purposes of applying the rules of this section, the
28 department shall count any month in which an adult family member
29 received a temporary assistance for needy families cash assistance
30 grant unless the assistance was provided when the adult family member
31 was a minor child and not the head of the household or married to the
32 head of the household.

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

37 (4) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized
38 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims'

1 programs through the department of commerce, or the crime victims'
2 compensation program of the department of labor and industries.

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

8 (i) By reason of hardship (~~(or)~~), including if the recipient is
9 homeless or at substantial risk of losing stable housing or housing
10 support services as described in RCW 43.185C.220; or

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

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

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

23 (7) (~~(Beginning on October 31, 2005,)~~) The department shall
24 provide transitional food (~~(stamp)~~) assistance for a period of five
25 months to a household that ceases to receive temporary assistance for
26 needy families assistance and is not in sanction status. If
27 necessary, the department shall extend the household's basic food
28 (~~(stamp)~~) certification until the end of the transition period.

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

31 (1) The WorkFirst program shall develop outcome measures for use
32 in evaluating the WorkFirst program authorized in chapter 58, Laws of
33 1997, which may include but are not limited to:

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

37 (b) Recidivism to caseload after two years;

38 (c) Employment;

39 (d) Job retention;

- 1 ~~((d))~~ (e) Earnings;
2 ~~((e))~~ (f) Wage progression;
3 (g) Reduction in average grant through increased recipient
4 earnings; ~~((and~~
5 ~~(f))~~ (h) Placement of recipients into private sector,
6 unsubsidized jobs; and
7 (i) Outcomes for sanctioned and time-limited families.

8 (2) The department shall require that contractors for WorkFirst
9 services collect outcome measure information and report outcome
10 measures to the department regularly. The department shall develop
11 benchmarks that compare outcome measure information from all
12 contractors to provide a clear indication of the most effective
13 contractors. Benchmark information shall be published quarterly and
14 provided to the legislature, the governor, the legislative-executive
15 WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task force, and all contractors
16 for WorkFirst services.

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

19 The department shall continue to implement WorkFirst program
20 improvements that are designed to achieve progress against outcome
21 measures specified in RCW 74.08A.410. Outcome data regarding job
22 retention and wage progression shall be reported quarterly to the
23 appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the legislature and to
24 the legislative-executive WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task
25 force for families who leave assistance for any reason, measured
26 after twelve months, twenty-four months, and thirty-six months. The
27 department shall also report the percentage of families who have
28 returned to temporary assistance for needy families after twelve
29 months, twenty-four months, and thirty-six months. The department
30 shall make every effort to maximize vocational training, as allowed
31 by federal and state requirements.

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

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

- 36 (1) Unsubsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

1 (2) Subsidized paid employment in the private or public sector,
2 including employment through the state or federal work-study program
3 for a period not to exceed twenty-four months;

4 (3) Work experience, including:

5 (a) An internship or practicum, that is paid or unpaid and is
6 required to complete a course of vocational training or to obtain a
7 license or certificate in a high-demand occupation, as determined by
8 the employment security department. No internship or practicum shall
9 exceed twelve months; or

10 (b) Work associated with the refurbishing of publicly assisted
11 housing, if sufficient paid employment is not available;

12 (4) On-the-job training;

13 (5) Job search and job readiness assistance;

14 (6) Community service programs, including a recipient's voluntary
15 service at a child care or preschool facility licensed under chapter
16 (~~43.215~~) 43.216 RCW or an elementary school in which his or her
17 child is enrolled;

18 (7) Vocational educational training, not to exceed twelve months
19 with respect to any individual except that this twelve-month limit
20 may be increased to twenty-four months subject to funding
21 appropriated specifically for this purpose;

22 (8) Job skills training directly related to employment;

23 (9) Education directly related to employment, in the case of a
24 recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a high school
25 equivalency certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536;

26 (10) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course
27 of study leading to a high school equivalency certificate as provided
28 in RCW 28B.50.536, in the case of a recipient who has not completed
29 secondary school or received such a certificate;

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

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

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

39 (14) Services required by the recipient under RCW
40 74.08.025(~~(+3)~~) (2) and 74.08A.010(4) to become employable;

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

4 (16) Parent education services or programs that support
5 development of appropriate parenting skills, life skills, and
6 employment-related competencies.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act applies prospectively only and
8 not retroactively. Prospective application of this act allows
9 families who have been previously permanently disqualified under
10 prior policies to receive benefits prospectively only, if otherwise
11 eligible.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for the purposes of
13 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
14 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
15 act is null and void."

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By Committee on Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation

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16 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "participation;" strike the
17 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 74.08.025,
18 74.08A.010, 74.08A.410, 74.08A.411, and 74.08A.250; and creating new
19 sections."

EFFECT: DSHS is to add to adopted rules related to TANF time
limit extensions that a hardship includes a family that is homeless
or at substantial risk of losing stable housing or housing support
services.

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