



Rulemaking Meeting #5

Beneficiaries: Assessments

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Agenda

- Housekeeping / Common terms
- Assessment criteria
- Discussion

Housekeeping

- Please use Q&A feature to ask questions during the presentation
- Chat will open for discussion at the end of the presentation
- The recording of this webinar will be made available at <https://wacaresfund.wa.gov/rulemaking>
- Next meeting: May 15th 2pm-4pm to discuss beneficiary rights and responsibilities and application process

Purpose

- The purpose of this meeting is to hear ideas from the public about rulemaking for DSHS WA Cares rulemaking.
- Please direct program questions to WACares@dshs.wa.gov

Common terms

Department of Social and Health Services	DSHS
Employment Security Department	ESD
Health Care Authority	HCA
Long-term services and supports	LTSS
Revised Code of Washington	RCW
Washington Cares Fund / WA Cares Fund	WCF
Washington Administrative Code	WAC



Chapter 50B.04 RCW

RCW 50B.04.020(3)(a)

- DSHS shall... [m]ake determinations regarding an individual's status as an eligible beneficiary under RCW 50B.04.060.

RCW 50B.04.010(6)

- (15) "Qualified individual" means an individual who meets the duration of payment requirements, as established in this chapter.
- (6) "Eligible beneficiary" means a qualified individual who is age eighteen or older, residing in the state of Washington, has been determined to meet the minimum level of assistance with activities of daily living necessary to receive benefits through the trust program, as established in this chapter, and has not exhausted the lifetime limit of benefit units.

RCW 50B.04.060(2)(a)(i)

- Except for qualified individuals residing outside of Washington as provided in (a)(ii) of this subsection, beginning July 1, 2026, a qualified individual may become an eligible beneficiary by filing an application with the department of social and health services and undergoing an eligibility determination which includes an evaluation that the individual requires assistance with at least three activities of daily living.



Assessment

Purpose of assessment

- Eligibility determination as required under RCW 50B.04.020(3)(a) and RCW 50B.04.060(2)(a)(i)
- Provide service suggestions for beneficiaries based on their responses during the assessment

Activities of daily living*

- Mobility
- Bed Mobility
- Transferring
- Eating
- Medication management
- Toileting
- Bathing

*Supervision, cueing or reminders to complete an activity of daily living due to cognitive impairment will also be considered

Mood and behavior

- Needs redirection
- Hallucinations
- Aggression
- Agitated
- Isolated
- Wanders
- Withdrawn

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

- Essential shopping
- Housework
- Meal preparation
- Transportation
- Wood supply
- Using the phone
- Social participation

Living environment and safety

- Condition of living environment
 - Adequate temperature
 - Scatter/throw rugs
 - Cluttered pathways
- Accessibility
 - Stairways or steps entering/exiting living environment
 - Stairway or steps to access sleeping area or bathroom

Assessment scoring

- Assessment scoring is based on a person's performance for activities of daily living during a look-back period.
- Performance of activities of daily living will need to be documented for eligibility.
- Documenting performance may help beneficiaries communicate their needs with providers and better understand how services could meet their needs.



Discussion

Discussion

- What do you think is important to keep in mind when drafting rules on beneficiary eligibility determinations?
- What accessibility and equity considerations come to mind regarding rules for beneficiary eligibility determinations?

Discussion

- Regarding the assessment sections we discussed today, what do you think is important for WA Cares to consider?

Discussion

- Regarding assessment scoring, what do you think is important for WA Cares to consider?

Discussion

- What barriers do you want WA Cares to be aware of regarding assessments for beneficiaries?

Discussion

- What do you hope you or others experience when being assessed by WA Cares?

Resources

- DSHS website: <https://wacaresfund.wa.gov/rulemaking>
- ESD website: <https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/rulemaking/ltss>
- HCA website: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/rulemaking>
- Questions related to the WA Cares program, please email WACares@dshs.wa.gov



Thank you!

We look forward to continuing this discussion in upcoming meetings

Questions about the WA Cares Fund rulemaking process?

Contact Arielle Finney at Arielle.Finney2@dshs.wa.gov

Questions about the WA Cares Fund program?

Contact the WA Cares Fund Customer Care Team at WACares@dshs.wa.gov