

WA Cares Fund: Draft For Informal Review - Pilot

WAC 388-116-1020 Pilot.

- (1) The purpose of the pilot is for the department to assess administrative processes and system capabilities in preparation for implementation of the full program.
- (2) The department will conduct a pilot from January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, for the benefits under this chapter.
- (3) The department will accept up to 400 applications for benefits in order of receipt, based on the date of application. The department may accept additional applications if the department does not enroll a sufficient number of beneficiaries to obtain necessary data from the pilot.
- (4) The department will accept applications for benefits from January 6, 2026, until March 31, 2026.
- (5) Applicants and eligible beneficiaries must reside and receive services within Lewis, Mason, Spokane, or Thurston counties.
- (6) Applicants and eligible beneficiaries may not be enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid), including long-term services and supports, for the duration of the pilot.
- (7) During the pilot, approved services do not include memory care services or nursing home services.
- (8) Benefit units used during the pilot are deducted from the beneficiary's lifetime benefit units.
- (9) Pilot participants will remain enrolled as eligible beneficiaries after termination of the pilot and subject to all other sections of this chapter.
- (10) Unless explicitly modified in this section, all other sections of this chapter apply to the pilot.
- (11) This section shall be repealed on July 1, 2026.