



CONTACT US



Phone: 844-227-3492 (toll-free)

Email: wacaresfund.wa.gov/contact

Language assistance is available.

WA CARES FUND PILOT PROGRAM

Get early access to your earned benefits
for long-term care!

HOW TO QUALIFY

WA Cares provides long-term care coverage for Washington workers. In January 2026, we'll start offering benefits to a small group of pilot participants who live in Lewis, Mason, Spokane and Thurston counties.

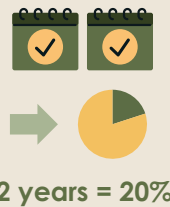
You must meet two requirements to qualify.

1. Contribution requirement



Temporary pathway: If you apply in 2026 and have contributed for 3+ years, you've earned access to \$36,500 in benefits.

Transition pathway: If you were born before 1968, you've earned access to 10% of the full benefit amount (\$36,500) for each year you contribute.



We count each calendar year you worked in Washington for 500+ hours, starting July 1, 2023.

If you plan to apply after 2026, learn more about future requirements at wacaresfund.wa.gov.

2. Care needs requirement

We'll meet with you to discuss your care needs. We must determine you need help with three or more activities of daily living and will continue to need help for 90+ days.

- Bathing
- Bed mobility
- Transferring
- Toileting
- Mobility
- Eating
- Managing medications



APPLY FOR BENEFITS

You (or someone helping you) will apply online or call us to complete your application. If you need extra support, you can work with your local Area Agency on Aging.

Pilot participants can apply Jan. 6 – Feb. 28, 2026.

Applications are limited, so make sure to submit yours as soon as you can.

RECEIVE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

You will be able to start getting benefits as soon as your application is approved. Your services will continue when the pilot program ends.

You can use your benefits to get covered services and supports from a WA Cares provider.

Visit wacaresfund.wa.gov/pilot to get started.