

# WA Cares Fund Pilot Program



Starting January 2026, you can access your long-term care benefits early if you:

- Live in **Lewis, Mason, Spokane or Thurston** counties
- Meet the **contribution requirement**
- Meet the **care needs requirement**

## HOW TO QUALIFY

### 1. CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT (2026 APPLICATIONS)

#### Temporary pathway

After contributing for  
**3+ YEARS**



Earn access to  
**\$36,500**  
in benefits

#### Transition pathway

If born before 1968,  
**FOR EACH YEAR**  
you contributed



Earn access to  
**10%**  
of the full benefit amount

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

### 2. CARE NEEDS REQUIREMENT

You must need help with **three or more** activities of daily living and will continue to need help for **90+ days**.

The activities we assess are bathing, bed mobility, eating, medication management, mobility, transferring and toileting.

## APPLY FOR BENEFITS

You (or someone helping you) will apply online or call us to complete your application. Your local Area Agency on Aging can support you.

**Pilot participants can apply from Jan. 6 - Feb. 28, 2026.**

We are accepting a limited number of applications, so make sure to submit yours as soon as you can.

## RECEIVE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

As soon as your application is approved, you can get covered services and supports from a WA Cares provider.

Your services will continue when the pilot program ends.

### COVERED SERVICES INCLUDE



In-home care



Home modifications



Home-delivered meals



Adaptive equipment



Transportation

Visit [wacaresfund.wa.gov/pilot](https://wacaresfund.wa.gov/pilot) to get started.



## LEARN MORE



**PHONE**

844-227-3492



**EMAIL**

[wacaresfund.wa.gov/contact](mailto:wacaresfund.wa.gov/contact)

Language assistance is available.