

# Assessment overview



To access your WA Cares Fund benefits, you will need to meet both the contribution requirement and care needs requirement. Your contribution determination letter will tell you if you have met the contribution requirement and the benefit amount you have available. **The care needs requirement is confirmed through the care needs assessment.**

During the care needs assessment, we will talk with you about the help you may need with daily activities and whether that need is expected to continue for at least 90 days.

## Activities we assess



Bathing



Bed mobility



Eating



Medication management



Mobility



Transferring



Toileting

**If you meet both requirements, you may be approved to use WA Cares benefits.**

## SCHEDULING INFORMATION

You'll use your online account to schedule a call with a WA Cares team member to start the assessment process. If you aren't able to schedule online, please contact us by phone or email.

During the phone call, we'll ask about your care needs and set up your assessment appointment. We can provide language assistance and accessibility accommodations during your assessment. For example, we can make sure the appointment takes place in a location that meets your mobility needs or adjust scheduling to allow extra time. Let us know your needs in advance.

You are also welcome to have at least one support person present during your assessment. This person can provide reassurance and help ensure that your needs and preferences are clearly understood.

# IN-PERSON ASSESSMENT

An in-person assessment may take place in your home or at a community setting you prefer. It will be conducted by a WA Cares team member from the Department of Social and Health Services or staff from your local Area Agency on Aging. Care needs assessments may take 90 minutes or longer to complete.

## HOW TO PREPARE

To help the process go smoothly, you may want to have the following information available.

### THESE ITEMS ARE NOT REQUIRED, BUT THEY CAN BE HELPFUL:

- A list of your current **diagnoses, conditions and illnesses**
- A list of your **medications and treatments** (to understand your need for assistance with medication management, we will ask the number of medications you take and will not document the specific medications you take)
- Information about any **long-term care services** you are currently using or have used in the past month
- A **current care plan**, if available

If you don't have all this information on hand, a WA Cares team member or staff from your local Area Agency on Aging will guide you through the process.

## LEARN MORE



### Phone

844-CARE4WA  
(844-227-3492)



### Email or chat

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

Language assistance is available.

For the most up-to-date information, visit [wacaresfund.wa.gov](https://wacaresfund.wa.gov).