

Program 060

DSHS - Economic Services Administration

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	4,283.3	1,045,879	1,274,101	2,319,980
Total Maintenance Level	4,187.2	1,092,676	1,251,439	2,344,115
Difference	(96.1)	46,797	(22,662)	24,135
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(2.2)%	4.5%	(1.8)%	1.0%
Performance Changes				
Child Care Development Fund to Department of Early Learning			(216,794)	(216,794)
Post TANF Program		8,410		8,410
Food Assistance Program		3,300		3,300
Child Care Collective Bargaining		83,785		83,785
Child Support Pass-Through	2.1	4,746	4,867	9,613
Increase Kinship Placements#	1.1	2,928		2,928
Cover All Kids	1.7	117	117	234
Workload Study		310	190	500
Child Support Match		16,111	(16,111)	
Child Support Mandatory Fee #	4.1	(892)	(1,732)	(2,624)
Expedited Medical Determinations	14.2	1,012	1,014	2,026
Medical Child Support #	7.5	363	707	1,070
Mandatory Assignment Revision #	1.0	61	116	177
Early Learning Information System		6,000		6,000
Citizenship Verification	14.3	439	439	878
Revise Pension Gain-Sharing #		(874)	(678)	(1,552)
Nonrepresented Staff Health Benefit		234	163	397
WFSE Collective Bargaining Agreement		20,181	16,186	36,367
Nonrepresented Staff Salary Change		2,291	1,580	3,871
Subtotal	45.8	148,522	(209,936)	(61,414)
Total Proposed Budget	4,233.0	1,241,198	1,041,503	2,282,701
Difference	(50.3)	195,319	(232,598)	(37,279)
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(1.2)%	18.7%	(18.3)%	(1.6)%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity				
Automated Client Eligibility Systems (ACES)	44.0	24,030	24,726	48,756
Child Support Enforcement	1,241.2	84,111	201,442	285,553
Child Support Recoveries	2.1	(65,643)	(73,773)	(139,416)
Consolidated Emergency Assistance (CEAP)	2.0	378		378
Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)	5.5	11,077	4	11,081
Employment Support Services: Refugees	23.8	8,962	15,667	24,629
Food Stamp Administration	708.8	36,457	37,408	73,865
General Assistance - Interim SSI (GA-U/X)	222.2	195,421	2,438	197,859

HUMAN SERVICES - DSHS

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
Immigrant State Food Assistance	40.1	17,040	30	17,070
Income Assistance: Repatriated U.S. Citizens			120	120
Medical Eligibility Determination Services	795.8	49,479	31,920	81,399
Other Client Services	2.8	22,455	5,973	28,428
Program Support	89.9	125,030	109,972	235,002
Refugee Assistance Income	4.3		3,498	3,498
Supplemental Security Income Payments		36,556		36,556
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	306.3	372,691	240,075	612,766
WorkFirst Employment and Training	445.4	60,312	127,801	188,113
Working Connections Child Care Program	303.1	153,156	293,564	446,720
Early Childhood Education and Assistance		83,785		83,785
Other Statewide Adjustments		25,901	20,638	46,539
Total Proposed Budget	4,236.9	1,241,198	1,041,503	2,282,701

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

Child Care Development Fund to Department of Early Learning

This item moves federal funding for the state's Working Connections Child Care program from the Department of Social and Health Services to the Department of Early Learning. The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) pays in part for the state's child care licensing function, quality initiatives, and some child care subsidies. (General Fund-Federal)

Post TANF Program

Research shows that post employment support helps families retain employment, move to higher paying jobs, and improve child outcomes. Funding is provided to establish a Post-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program to increase long-term self-sufficiency and enable Washington State to count clients benefitting from this program in the federal work participation rate.

Food Assistance Program

State funding for the food assistance program for legal immigrants has historically been claimed as maintenance of effort. Continuing this approach would now include these clients in the work participation rate calculation.

Child Care Collective Bargaining

This item funds the collective bargaining agreement between the Department of Early Learning (DEL) and family child care workers. Some funding for the collect bargaining agreement is provided in the DSHS budget, to be distributed with the provider payments made by DSHS on DEL's behalf. The funding provided directly to DEL will cover subsidy and licensing training and agency implementation costs.

Child Support Pass-Through

The Deficit Reduction Act gives states the option to pass through, or pay child support payments to families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance. Effective October 1, 2008, Washington State will implement the pass-through option of up to \$100 for a one-child family, or up to \$200 for a family with two or more children, and the federal government will waive the federal share. This item provides funding to notify pass-through recipients, make support enforcement management system changes, and adjusts the levels of child support retained by the state. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Increase Kinship Placements#

This item provides funding for the Economic Services Administration to address the estimated increase in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) child-only grants related to the estimated increase in the number of children to be placed with relatives or other suitable persons with whom the child has a relationship. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Cover All Kids

The September 2006 State Population Survey indicates that 4.4 percent of Washington's 1.6 million children do not have access to health insurance. Approximately 45,000, or 40 percent of uninsured children, live in families with household incomes under 250 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is a federal program that provides states with enhanced federal participation (65 percent) for health care expenditures provided to children ineligible for Medicaid but are at or below 250 percent of the FPL. Funding is provided to expand SCHIP coverage by approximately 32,000 children by the end of Fiscal Year 2009. In anticipation of this expansion, the Department is directed to rebrand the state's health coverage offerings in a way that promotes wider participation, develop a marketing strategy aimed at promoting the state's rebranded offerings, and streamline the state's health coverage application process to eliminate unnecessary categorization. Finally, the Department is provided additional staff so that eligibility determination staff can be placed in locations that have a high probability of containing eligible but not enrolled populations. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Workload Study

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) needs a current workload study on which to base staffing decisions. Funding is provided for a comprehensive study to more accurately estimate the workload associated with activities. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Child Support Match

Washington State has used incentive funds as the state match for federal child support funds at a 34 percent match. The federal Deficit Reduction Act repealed the authority to use these funds as state match. Funding is provided to continue the child support program at its current level.

Child Support Mandatory Fee #

The federal Deficit Reduction Act requires states to assess a \$25 mandatory fee for the use of Division of Child Support Services. Of the revenue collected, 66 percent must be paid to the federal government. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Expedited Medical Determinations

Recent legislation requires the Department to provide immediate access to benefits for eligible persons with serious mental disorders upon their release from a prison, jail or state psychiatric hospital. Funding is provided to phase in staff to perform expedited medical determinations. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Medical Child Support #

The federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 requires the Division of Child Support to pursue private medical insurance from the custodial parent in cases when insurance is not provided by the non-custodial parent, and requires that procedures be established for the recovery of medical co-pays, deductibles, and medical costs. Funding is provided to meet the new federal requirements. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Mandatory Assignment Revision #

The federal Deficit Reduction Act limits the allowable child support assignment to the state to only the amount of child support due to the custodial parent for each month that Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is paid to the family. Funding is provided to make necessary support enforcement system changes to allow the Division of Child Support to meet the changes required by the federal government. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

Early Learning Information System

Funding is provided to acquire and begin implementation of the early learning information system in order to support the data and management information system needs of the Department of Early Learning. Full implementation is expected in Fiscal Year 2010.

HUMAN SERVICES - DSHS

Citizenship Verification

To implement tasks needed to comply with new federal citizenship verification rules as required by the Federal Deficit Reduction Act, additional funding is provided to determine eligibility for new clients. Citizenship for new clients will initially be conducted by community service offices. Applicants whose verification cannot be determined immediately will be routed for verification through the centralized citizenship verification function within the Health and Recovery Services Administration. The DRA also requires the verification of work activities for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients. An additional 7.1 FTE staff are provided to ESA to comply with the requirements. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Federal)

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Automated Client Eligibility Systems (ACES)

This activity includes the Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) project, which automated the eligibility determination and case maintenance process for all assistance programs, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), food stamps, medical assistance, and WorkFirst.

Child Support Enforcement

The Division of Child Support (DCS) Field Operations is responsible for providing direct child support client services. DCS receives federal incentive payments for paternity establishment, order establishment, current support paid, cases paying towards arrears, and cost effectiveness. Field Operations staff work collaboratively with the county prosecuting attorney, county clerk, and county court commissioner offices. County Legal Operations consists of county prosecuting attorney staff, county clerk staff, court commissioners, and the King County Sheriff. Central Field Operations staff provide direct centralized support to DCS field staff and customers, including the receipt and distribution of over \$50 million each month in child support payments; reconciliation of child support collection bank accounts; case file imaging; and information technology planning, implementation, and maintenance. Direct client support activities include Internal Revenue Service intercept support, passport revocation reversal, child support payment review, and assistance with the receipt and distribution of child support. Management and Administration provides division-wide leadership, operational support, policy development, risk assessment and mitigation, mandated audits, reports and statistical analyses, constituent relations, and communications. Additional activities are financial services, contracts management, procurement, human resources, and facilities management.

Child Support Recoveries

The Division of Child Support anticipates collections of over \$1.2 billion in child support in the 2003-05 Biennium. The amounts shown are the portions collected on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and former TANF cases that are retained by the state.

Consolidated Emergency Assistance (CEAP)

The Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) gives cash grants to needy families who are not eligible for other programs and have a specific emergent need, such as shelter, food, clothing, minor medical, household maintenance, or job-related transportation. CEAP may be granted only one month in any consecutive 12-month period. The FTEs shown here are the percentage associated with the CEAP caseload.

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) provides one-time financial assistance to TANF-eligible families to allow them to accept or maintain employment. These services assist clients in not developing long-term dependence on TANF assistance. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with the DCA caseload base.

Employment Support Services: Refugees

The primary goal of the Refugee Assistance program is to promote the economic self-sufficiency of refugees and limited English speaking clients through effective use of social services, and financial and medical assistance. Refugees are persons fleeing persecution due to race, nationality, political opinion, religion, or membership in a particular group, and they must meet low-income financial criteria to qualify for services. The federal funding portion of employment services is limited to the first five years after entering the United States. Services include case management, employment assistance, English training, skills training, preventive mental health and cultural adaptation, community development and technical assistance, volunteer services, and social services. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with case management of the Refugee Assistance program.

Food Stamp Administration

This activity includes FTE staff and funding associated with determining eligibility for and case management of federal food stamp benefits.

General Assistance - Interim SSI (GA-U/X)

General Assistance-Unemployable (GA-U) and General Assistance-Interim SSI (GA-U/X) provide cash grants to low-income individuals and childless couples whose physical, mental, or emotional illness prevents them from working, and who may be ineligible or have applied for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). GA-U provides cash assistance for low-income adults who are unemployable based on a medical impairment. GA-X has the same financial eligibility requirements and provides the same cash assistance as GA-U. However, because the client appears to meet SSI disability criteria and the medical condition will prevent employment for at least 12 consecutive months, GA-X recipients are eligible for Medicaid health coverage. The department requires and helps GA-X recipients apply for SSI benefits. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with GA-U/X.

Immigrant State Food Assistance

The Immigrant State Food Assistance Program (FAP) provides food assistance for legal immigrants who are no longer eligible for federal food assistance. Benefits are issued through the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) system that can be used at participating grocery stores. The value of the benefit is determined by the size of the household, as well as the net income of the assistance unit. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with FAP.

Income Assistance: Repatriated U.S. Citizens

The United States Repatriate Program provides temporary assistance to United States citizens and/or their dependents returning to the United States because of destitution, mental or physical illness, or international crisis. This program is federally funded.

Medical Eligibility Determination Services

These FTE staff and the funding are associated with determining eligibility and case management of medical programs.

Other Client Services

Other Client Services includes incapacity examinations, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) consultative evaluations, interpretative services, and naturalization services that are provided directly to clients.

Program Support

Program Support encompasses the people and infrastructure that support all of the grant and employment services which are part of the Economic Services Administration. Funding provides staff, building, and supply costs for operating programs statewide including Regional Administration activities. This activity includes funding for Basic Food Education and Outreach, Nutrition Education, and Basic Food Employment and Training programs, as well as the WorkFirst evaluation, child care database, and child care research projects. The FTEs shown here represent that portion that was not attributed to a specific program area.

HUMAN SERVICES - DSHS

Refugee Assistance Income

Refugee Assistance provides cash grants to needy refugees who have settled in Washington State to help them become self-sufficient. The population served by this benefit are refugees authorized by the U.S. State Department to immigrate into the country and are granted permanent residence. Client need is determined by comparing the family's income to a payment standard. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with the cash grants portion of the Refugee Assistance program.

Supplemental Security Income Payments

Based on legislative changes for Fiscal Year 2003, program dollars have been reduced to reflect the serving of a different client population. Within this change, the Legislature directed the Economic Services Administration to pay supplemental state payments to Mandatory Income Level (MIL) clients and individuals with a spouse ineligible for Supplemental Security Insurance. For Fiscal Year 2003, an average monthly caseload of 5,000 was assumed.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

TANF grants provide monthly cash assistance to needy families with children and to low-income pregnant women. Eligibility is determined by comparing the family's countable income to the grant payment standard for the applicant's household size. Funding for the program is shared by state and federal governments. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with the TANF caseload.

WorkFirst Employment and Training

The WorkFirst Employment program offers job search, subsidized employment, post-job search employability evaluation, job readiness training, basic education, career counseling, and non-salaried work experience to TANF-eligible clients. The program also provides support for vocational education once a client is working 20 hours per week. This federally mandated program is designed to move clients from public assistance to permanent self-sufficiency. The FTE staff shown here are the percentage associated with case management functions of WorkFirst employment and training programs.

Working Connections Child Care Program

The Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program provides payments for child care services to all Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) clients, WorkFirst participants, and non-TANF, low-income parents who participate in employment, work activities, and training. Child care assistance allows low-income families to attain and maintain self-sufficiency. The state partially subsidizes child care for families with seasonal employment, as well as homeless and teen parent populations. Also included in this activity is funding for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP). The FTE staff shown here represent both the percentage of FTEs associated with eligibility and case management functions of the WCCC program.

Early Childhood Education and Assistance

Authorized by RCW 28A.215, the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is a comprehensive school-readiness program for three- and four-year-old children and their families living in poverty or otherwise at risk of failure in school. ECEAP's purpose is to ensure all children are ready to succeed in school, regardless of family income or other historic barriers to achievement. Children receive early learning services in literacy, language, math, science, health, medical linkages, and social and emotional development. ECEAP offers family support services to encourage parent involvement, provide education in child development, health and nutrition, and enable family self-sufficiency. ECEAP's 33 public and private community contractors design services to fit the specific needs of their service areas. DSHS monitors contracts to ensure compliance with statewide standards, and provides technical support, training, and development to contractors.

Other Statewide Adjustments

This item reflects proposed compensation and other adjustments that were not allocated to individual agency activities. The agency will assign these costs to the proper activities after the budget is enacted.