

Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) And Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for Adults



Explore:

- The process for applying and receiving Apple Health LTSS.
- Care options for people receiving Apple Health LTSS.
- Caregiver assistance options.

A message from the Director of...

Home and Community Services

If you have received this booklet, then you (or your loved one) are looking at options for help with your care. This is uncharted territory for many people and it may feel unfamiliar and confusing. It can be difficult to know what help is available, how to access services and how you will pay for it.



Home and Community Services is part of state government. We help low income seniors and adults with disabilities and their families get information, support and services when long-term care is needed.

We are proud that Washington state is recognized as a pioneer and national leader in helping all adults who need care continue to live as independently as possible at home or in a community setting. In fact, the AARP consistently ranks our programs as one of the best in the country.

What does this mean for you? You have many options and choices to get the care you need. You are not alone as you learn about what options are available and get services set up.

Our financial and social services workers are professionals that will help you understand your options and match your needs and preferences to quality services available in your community.

I encourage you to read through this booklet and ask your financial or social services worker any questions that come to mind. I know you are in capable, knowledgeable hands.

Sincerely,

Bea Rector

Director, Home and Community Services

Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) And Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for Adults

You Have a Choice.

This booklet is for adults 18 or older who have a chronic condition, disease, or disability, need help with care and are exploring using Washington Apple Health Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) (also known as Medicaid) to help pay for care.

If you need assistance but are not exploring using Apple Health LTSS to help pay for your care, you may find it helpful to access information about long-term services and supports on our website: www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa.

This booklet will help you learn more about:

- How to apply for Apple Health LTSS.
- The income and resource eligibility limits for Apple Health LTSS.
- Estate recovery of any funds you receive.
- In-home and residential care service options and resources if you are eligible for Apple Health LTSS.
- Resources for your unpaid family caregiver.

DSHS does not discriminate in serving or contracting with people because of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed, marital status, disability, or Vietnam Era Veteran status, or the presence of any physical, mental, or sensory handicap.

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■ Home and Community Services (HCS) is part of the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA), an administration within the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).

HCS staff provide a variety of services and support to you.

Applying for Apple Health LTSS

Apple Health LTSS is a government health insurance program that pays for long-term services and supports for people who have very limited income and resources.

If you are eligible, Apple Health LTSS pays for services in your own home, a community residential care facility (Adult Family Home or Assisted Living Facility) or nursing facility.

How to Apply

If you are 18 or older, you can apply for Apple Health LTSS through your local Home and Community Services (HCS) office or online.

There are three main parts to the application process:

1. Filling out and turning in an application.
2. A financial review to determine your financial eligibility.
3. A personal care assessment to determine your functional eligibility.

Apply in person or by mail

Call or visit the HCS office to get an application form. Phone numbers for HCS offices are on the back of this booklet. The application form can be:

- Mailed to you.
- Picked up at the HCS office.
- Downloaded and printed at: www.hca.wa.gov/apple-health-client-forms under 18-005 Washington Apple Health Application for Aged, Blind, Disabled or long-term care coverage. To easily locate the document online, we recommend typing 18-005 into the search tool on the HCA webpage. The document has instructions for how to submit your application.

Apply online

To fill out and submit the application online, go to Washington Connections www.washingtonconnection.org/home/ and click “Apply Now.” This brings you to a secure internet page. Any information you enter on the application is protected.

If you are under age 65 and not on Medicare, apply for Apple Health LTSS through the Washington Health Benefit Exchange www.wahealthplanfinder.org under apply for coverage and indicate a request for long-term services and supports.

Filling Out the Application

Follow the instructions and answer all the questions on the application. If you need help filling out the application, call your local HCS office. Phone numbers for HCS offices are on the back of this booklet and online at www.dshs.wa.gov/AL TSA/resources.

Information you will need to provide includes:

- A Social Security number.
- Proof of identification.
- Proof of income.
- Documentation of resources (such as bank statements, property tax statements, life insurance).
- Immigration or alien documents.
- Proof of citizenship if you do not receive Medicare or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Social Security Disability Benefits.

Additional Support

If you have difficulty reading the application or have mental, physical, hearing, or sight issues that make it difficult to understand what is happening during the application process, ask an HCS staff person for help.

HCS staff may be able to offer you materials in Braille, translated, on computer disk, in large print, or the use of assisted listening devices, TTYs (Teletype Telephone), or a qualified/certified interpreter.

If you want someone else to apply for you, you need to sign a consent form giving the other person permission to represent you during the application process. The consent form must be updated annually.

Make sure the person you designate is prepared to answer questions about your personal and financial situation.

More information on the application process for long-term services and supports can be found at: www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/applications-ltc.

Financial Review

Once you have completed your application, a HCS financial services specialist works with you to see if you are financially eligible to receive Apple Health LTSS. Depending on what works best for you, this can be an in-person or telephone interview.

Apple Health LTSS rules can be found at: www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/apple-health-eligibility-manual.

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When you talk to the financial services specialist, you can explain in more detail the answers on your application form.

See the next section “Income and Resource Eligibility Limits” for more information about the income and resource eligibility limits and any resource transfers the financial services specialist will be reviewing with you. You must declare all resources you have when applying for Apple Health LTSS.

HCS employees can explain Apple Health LTSS rules but are not able to give you personal, financial, or legal advice. You may want to talk with an attorney who understands Apple Health rules if you need help with a decision.

Staff at your local Community Living Connections Office/Area Agency on Aging can help you locate legal assistance. See page 20 for contact information.

Income and resource eligibility limits

You must meet various income and resource requirements to be eligible for Apple Health LTSS. Income and resource limits are set by law and change each year.

Income

Apple Health LTSS income limits vary depending on the services you need, your living situation, and your marital status. The HCS office will have current information. All Apple Health LTSS income and resource standards are found at www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/income-standards.pdf.

Resources

You must declare all resources you have when applying for Apple Health LTSS. Resources include money, assets, or property such as cash, bank accounts, stocks and bonds, retirement plans, trusts, annuities, life insurance policies, sales contracts, vehicles and land that is not part of your primary residence. If you are married, resources of both spouses is used to determine your eligibility for Apple Health LTSS.

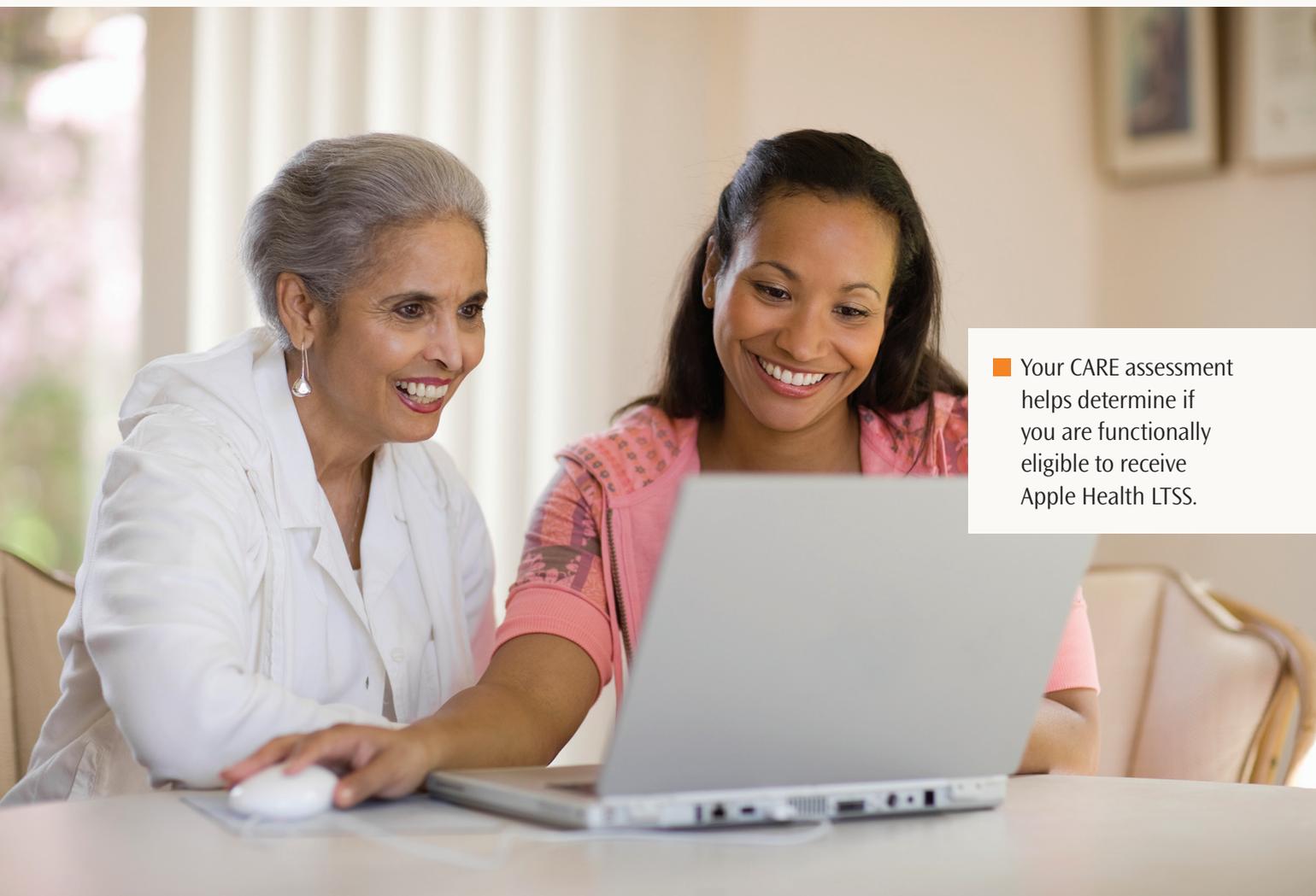
Certain “exempt” resources are not counted toward the resource limits. Exempt resources can include your primary residence, household goods and personal effects, a car, life insurance with a face value not more than \$1,500, burial plots, and most prepaid burial plans.

Transferring resources

Federal law states that certain gifts or transfers made to qualify for Apple Health LTSS are subject to penalties. State law also contains

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■ Your CARE assessment helps determine if you are functionally eligible to receive Apple Health LTSS.

penalties for the person who receives resources transferred for less than fair market value.

Under state and federal law, the HCS financial services specialist must review any transfer of resources that took place within 60 months of the date you apply for institutional or Home and Community Based Waiver services.

If resources were transferred within that timeframe and you did not receive fair market value for them, you may not be eligible to receive long-term care Apple Health LTSS services for a period of time.

You can transfer your home without penalty to your:

- Spouse.
- Sibling who has an equity interest in the home and has lived there for at least one year immediately before the date of Apple Health LTSS eligibility.

- Dependent child under 21 years of age.
- Child who is blind or disabled.
- Adult child who has lived with you and provided care to allow you to remain at home for two years.

Personal Care Assessment

During your personal care assessment, an HCS social services worker comes to your home and talks with you at length. This interview allows the social services worker to understand and evaluate what is currently happening in your day-to-day life and what kind of help you need. You will be asked about what help you received to complete activities of daily living such as eating, dressing, bathing, ambulating and toileting.

This assessment is used to determine if the level of care services you need makes you functionally eligible to receive Apple Health LTSS.

If you are eligible to receive Apple Health LTSS, the social services worker will review your options for care services with you. See page 11 for a review of some of the service options that may be available to you. It is helpful to read this section before you meet with a social services worker.

As part of your comprehensive assessment reporting evaluation (CARE assessment), a nurse can be available to help assess and plan what kind of help you may need with skilled health care tasks. This may be a consultation between a nurse and your social services worker, or a phone call or home visit between you and the nurse.

Many people already have family and friends helping with care. For example, your nephew may take you grocery shopping or to the doctor, your daughter may help you pay bills, and a friend may pick you up each Sunday for church.

Talk with these family and friends and find out if they are going to continue to do these things for you before you meet with the social services worker.

What to Expect When Your Application is Approved

You will receive a letter letting you know if you have been approved for Apple Health LTSS coverage.

The letter will tell you how much of your income you may keep for your personal needs, spousal support, home maintenance allowance, medical insurance premiums, necessary medical expenses not covered by Apple Health LTSS, and how much you must pay your provider towards your cost of care (Client Responsibility). See the next section, **Your Income Once You Receive Apple Health LTSS**, for more information.

You will receive a letter letting you know if you have been approved for Apple Health LTSS coverage.

Contact the person who sent you the letter if you have any questions about what is in the approval letter.

You will receive a ProviderOne Services Card. If you are not on Medicare, you will be enrolled in an Apple Health LTSS managed care plan; www.hca.wa.gov/apple-health-managed-care. If you are on Medicare, most of your Medicare related co-payments will be covered. Once you are eligible for Apple Health LTSS, you are also enrolled into the Low-Income Subsidy Medicare D prescription drug plan if you don't have one. For more information on Medicare programs visit: www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/medicare.

The social services worker will help you develop an individualized care plan and coordinate setting up your services.

You will receive a Health Care Coverage and Responsibility form (HCA 18-011) that outlines your rights and responsibilities when receiving Apple Health LTSS for aged, blind, disabled or in need of long-term services and supports. A copy of the HCA 18-011 is available at www.hca.wa.gov/apple-health-client-forms.

Your financial and functional eligibility to receive Apple Health LTSS benefits will be reviewed at least once a year and after significant changes in your condition.

If you are not approved

You will receive a letter letting you know your application has been denied for Apple Health LTSS coverage.

There are many low-cost resources and programs that you might want to explore. Contact your local Community Living Connections office. See page 20 for more information.

Your Income Once You Receive Apple Health LTSS

Once you begin receiving Apple Health LTSS, you may have to contribute some of your income towards the cost of your care. This is called Client Responsibility. Your Client Responsibility amount depends on the services you receive, your marital status, and your income. You must pay these Client Responsibility costs if they are required.

Part of your available income may go towards a spousal allowance. A spousal allowance is used to bring your spouse's income up to established federal government standards. Receiving a spousal allowance depends on the program, your needed services, and your

Your eligibility to receive Apple Health LTSS benefits will be reviewed at least once a year and after significant changes in your condition.

living situation. Part of your available income may also go to support dependent relatives.

If you live at home, part of your available income can be kept for home maintenance such as rent, utilities, and taxes and personal needs. If you live in a residential care facility, you keep some of your income for your personal needs.

If you will be staying in a nursing facility a short time, you may be able to keep additional income to help maintain your home for your return. This is known as a “Housing Maintenance Allowance”. Your doctor must verify that you will likely return home within six months.

If you are residing in an Adult Family Home or Assisted Living Facility, you will be responsible to pay room and board in addition to your Client Responsibility. The combination of Client Responsibility and room and board is called your total responsibility.

Supplemental Payment Policy

Supplemental payment policy requirements are outlined in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 388-105-0050 and 388-105-0055.

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Apple Health LTSS plus the amount you pay in Client Responsibility is payment in full for your care. Adult Family Homes (AFHs) or Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) (see page 18) may only request additional money from you for items not covered in the Apple Health LTSS rate.

Here are some examples:

- You would like a private room in a home with available semi-private rooms. You would have to pay additional money to the home to have a private room.
- You prefer a name brand personal care items rather than the generic brand the home buys. You would have to pay more for the name brand personal care item.

An AFH or ALF charging additional money for items not covered in the Apple Health LTSS (Medicaid) rate must give you a copy of their supplemental payment policy outlining additional payments. Contact the Residential Care Services Complaint Resolution Unit at 1-800-562-6078 if after reviewing the supplemental payment policy you have concerns or complaints.

Resident Personal Funds Held by a Facility

If a residential care facility holds any personal funds of a resident who dies, the money must be given within 45 days to:

- The individual or probate jurisdiction administering the resident's estate.

- or -

- The Office of Financial Recovery. This office may release funds to pay for burial costs.

Recovery of Funds From Your Estate

By law, Washington state may recover (be paid back) payments the state made for all Apple Health LTSS and long-term services and supports you received prior to your death. Payment is taken from your estate (assets you owned or had an interest in at the time of death). This is called Estate Recovery. Additional information on Estate Recovery, including the types of services that are subject to Estate Recovery, can be found at: www.dshs.wa.gov/fsa/forms?field_number_value=14-454&title=&=Apply or Estate Recovery for Medical Services Paid for by the State at www.washingtonlawhelp.org (click on "Seniors" and then "Long term care assistance"). You may also read the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 41.05a and 43.20b and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 182-827.

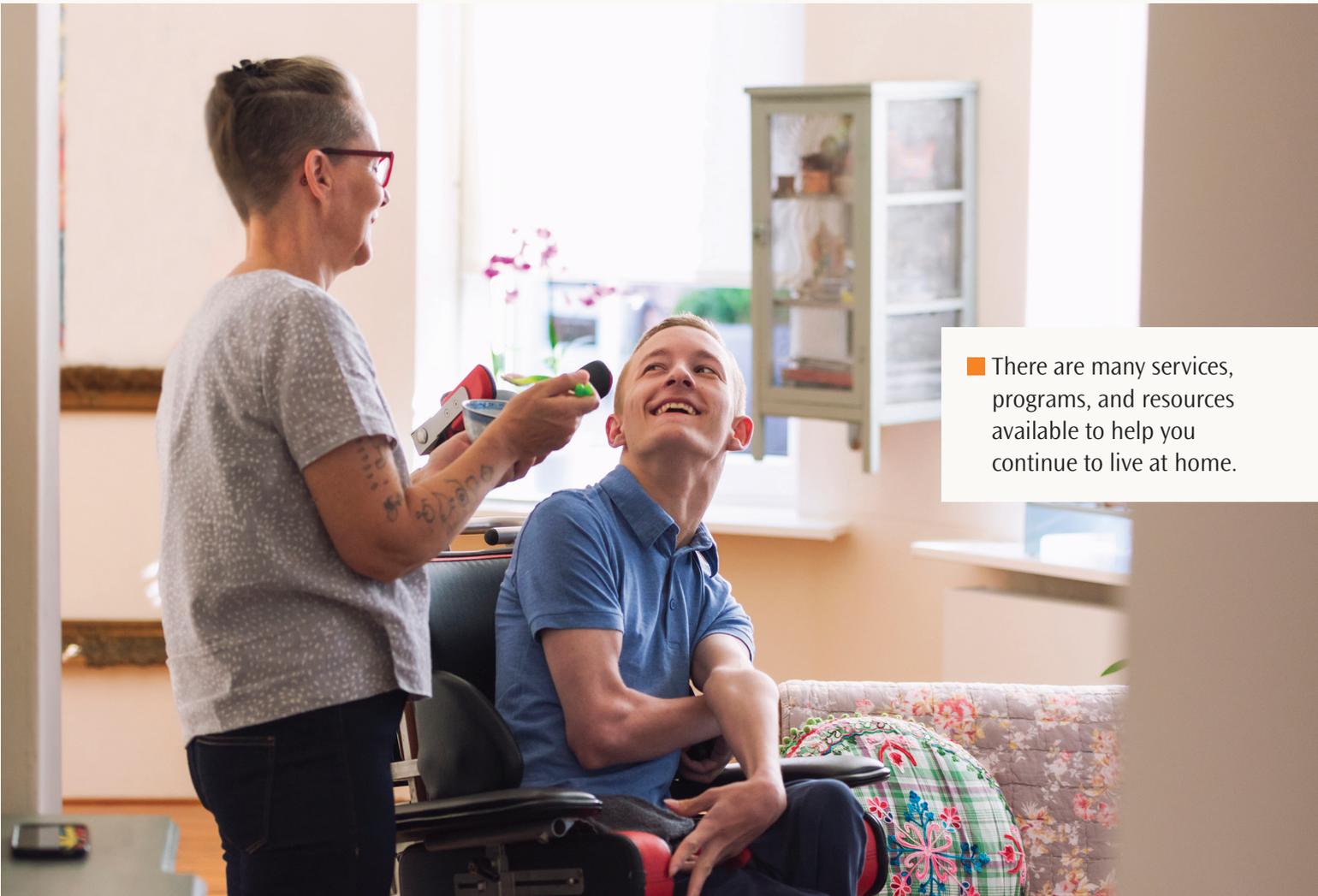
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■ There are many services, programs, and resources available to help you continue to live at home.

Washington state will recover the cost of federally or state funded long-term services and supports with the exception of:

- Adult Protective Services
- Supplemental security payments authorized by Developmental Disability Administration (DDA)
- Offender reentry community safety program services
- Volunteer services
- Medicare related co-payments and premiums under a federal Medicare Savings Program
- Medical costs Health Care Authority pays if you do not also receive long-term care services and supports
- Medicaid Alternative Care
- Tailored Supports for Older Adults

Estate recovery only applies to assets you owned or had an interest in at the time of death. The state will not begin recovery efforts until after your death, during the life of a surviving spouse, domestic partner, or while a surviving child is under age 21, blind, or disabled. Hardship provisions to protect dependent heirs may apply.

Certain lands belonging to American Indians or Alaska Natives may be exempt from Estate Recovery.

Various exemptions have existed over the years. DSHS will apply whatever estate recovery law existed on the date that benefits were received.

Liens Against Property

DSHS may file a lien or make a claim against any property to repay the costs of long-term care and medical services received if:

- You are permanently living in a nursing home or other medical facility.
- The property is part of your estate and you have died.

Before filing a lien against real property as part of estate recovery, DSHS will give notice and an opportunity for a hearing to your estate's personal representative or any other established titled owner of the property.

If you are permanently living in a nursing home or other medical facility and receive Apple Health LTSS, DSHS may recover costs from your estate or the sale of your property. If you return home, the lien is released. A lien is not filed against your home if your:

- Spouse, domestic partner, or a minor, blind, or disabled child lives in the home.
- Sibling has an equity interest in the home, currently lives there, and has lived there for at least one year immediately before you moved to the facility.

For more information on estate recovery, consult an attorney with experience in Apple Health LTSS law. You can also contact Coordinated Legal Education, Advice, and Referral (CLEAR) toll-free at 1-888-201-1014.

CLEAR is a project of the Northwest Justice Project – a non-profit statewide organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income Washington State residents. They have a website in English and Spanish at www.nwjustice.org.

Care Options for People Receiving Apple Health LTSS

There are many services, programs, and resources available to help you continue to live at home.

A HCS social services worker, sometimes referred to as a case manager, will review your care options with you after your CARE assessment (see page 5).

The following pages are a summary of some of the care options you may discuss. Your social services worker will have more information and answer any questions you may have about these options and your eligibility and talk with you about what you think will work best for you.

Services and Programs That Help You Stay at Home

Many people can continue to live at home if they have help with things like preparing meals, personal care, transportation, or housekeeping.

There are many services, programs, and resources available to help you in these areas.

Often, family and friends are already helping you and will continue to do so. Your social services worker will work with you and develop a care plan to fill in gaps where more help is needed.

Medicaid Alternative Care (MAC)

If you are 55 years or older, financially eligible for Apple Health LTSS medical services, have an unpaid family or friend caregiver helping you with some personal care tasks, and want to live at home, Medicaid Alternative Care (MAC) is a new choice for you. MAC is an Apple Health LTSS provided through the 5-year Medicaid Transformation Demonstration that will support your unpaid caregiver with services and supports to help them be successful in their caregiving role. MAC services would be instead of the other Apple Health LTSS listed in this publication.

Services provided under MAC are not subject to Estate Recovery and Client Responsibility (co-pay) as described on pages 8-9 in this book.

MAC provides a wide range of services choices for caregivers within program limits:

- Information about caregiving, resources in your community, available services and more.
- Evidence-based consultation.

- Support groups and counseling.
- Durable medical equipment.
- Potential for respite care options or housework and errand support.
- Training opportunities.

Ask your HCS social services worker or contact your local Community Living Connections office at www.waclc.org or visit www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/stakeholders/medicaid-transformation-project-demonstration for more information about this program.

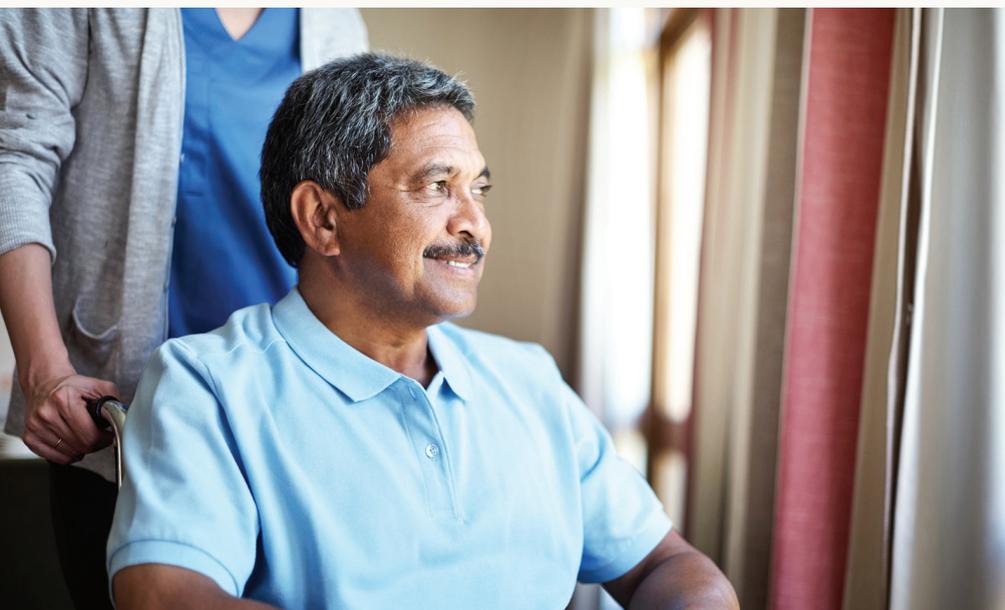
Help with Personal Care

Needing help with personal care means you need assistance with things such as bathing, dressing, or toileting. Programs such as Community First Choice (CFC) or Medicaid Personal Care (MPC) pay for personal care services.

You can hire a caregiver to help you with personal care if you meet the eligibility requirements. Depending on your income, DSHS will pay for all or part of these caregiver services (see page 6 for more information). DSHS also pays for basic caregiver training for any qualified caregiver(s) you hire.

It is your choice who your caregiver(s) will be. You can find a caregiver yourself, called an Individual Provider (IP), find one through a home care agency, or a combination of both. If you want a family member to be your caregiver, he or she can only be hired as an IP. IPs must meet certain state and federal criteria and the state will help you determine if family or friend can be qualified to become an IP. Your social services worker can help you with this process.

It is your choice who your caregiver(s) will be.



2ESB 5867 exempts this prohibition when the client is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe or resides in the household of an enrolled member.

Individual Provider (IP)

With an IP, you decide who comes to your house and provides your care. You set your caregiver's work schedule within their work week limit (usually 40 hours per week) and determine how and when the tasks will be done. The number of hours you may use to hire a caregiver is determined through your assessment.

You are the IP's employer. This means you choose, hire, and supervise the caregiver. You may also want to find a backup caregiver when your regular IP has time off. To find an IP, you can:

- Choose a friend or family member (with some exceptions).
- Use the Home Care Referral Registry (see page 14).
- Look for someone in your community.

DSHS will do a background check on anyone you select.

For a more detailed understanding of your employer responsibilities, read through the "*Acknowledgement of My Responsibilities as the Employer of My Individual Provider*" (DSHS 11-055). Your case manager will provide you with this form.

Home Care Agencies

Your other option is to choose a licensed and contracted home care agency to provide a caregiver. A home care agency recruits, does background checks through DSHS, hires, supervises their workers, and makes sure caregivers receive the required training. A home care agency provides you with a backup caregiver if your scheduled caregiver is not available.

The home care agency supervisor will work with you to find caregivers that best meet your needs. However, you have less control over who is chosen in comparison to hiring an IP and you may not have the same caregiver coming into your home each time. With few exceptions, homecare agencies are not allowed to hire one of your family members to provide your care.

Support of your Unpaid Family Caregiver

Another choice for services is to support your primary unpaid caregiver (like your spouse or adult children). Medicaid Alternative Care is available instead of receiving personal care through Community First Choice or Medicaid Personal Care if you are 55 years or older. Your caregiver could be eligible for training and education,

There are several in-home care options available if you need help with health care.

specialized equipment/supplies, health maintenance supports, and respite. Estate Recovery and Client Responsibility do not apply to this program. More information is available on page 8 of this publication. Your local HCS office will also be able to provide additional information on these programs.

Home Care Referral Registry of Washington State

The Home Care Referral Registry of Washington State is a FREE referral service that matches you with prescreened IPs in your area. You can use the Registry to assist in your search for an IP or backup caregiver.

There are Registry Centers in many communities in Washington. To see if there is a Registry Center near you, call 1-800-970-5456 or visit their website at www.hcrr.wa.gov for more information.

A new, free, web-based matching system is piloting in several areas of the state with plans to be available statewide in 2018 or earlier. Your social worker/case manager or Home Care Referral Specialist can let you know when it is available in your area.

Hiring Family or Friends as Your Caregiver – A Guide for Adults Needing Care (DSHS 22-1332) is a free booklet offering practical tips and suggestions if you hire a family member or friend to provide care. See page 23 for ordering information.

Help with Health Care Needs

In the past, many people moved to a nursing home if care was needed from a licensed health care professional such as a registered nurse. Today, there are several in-home care options that may be available if you need help with health care tasks.

Self-Directed Care

If you live in your home, you can direct and supervise an IP to help you with health care tasks that you can't do because of your disability. This would include things an IP would not usually be able to do including administering medications, bowel programs, bladder catheterization, and wound care.

Nurse Delegation

In this program, a registered nurse (RN) evaluates your health care needs and trains and supervises a nursing assistant or certified home care aide (HCA) to provide health care tasks that you can't do for yourself. There are rules about what types of care can and cannot be delegated.

Hiring Family or Friends as Your Caregiver – A Guide for Adults Needing Care (DSHS 22-1332) is a free booklet offering practical tips and suggestions if you hire a family member or friend to provide care. See page 23 for ordering information.

The nursing assistant or HCA must receive training and be approved by the delegating nurse before doing any delegated tasks. Nurse delegation is available in your home or a residential care facility.

Home Health Care

A home health care agency provides skilled nursing care or a home health aide. Your social services worker can work with you on this.

Hospice

Hospice care involves a team of professionals and volunteers who provide medical, psychological, and spiritual care for people near the end of life and their families. Hospice care is most often provided at home but is also available in other care settings, including a hospital. A doctor's referral is needed.

Other Services That Can Help

The following are additional services that may be available.

Adult Day Services

Adult day services are programs offering services in a group setting outside the home. Adult Day Care programs include help with personal care, social and therapeutic activities, education, routine health monitoring, a nutritious meal and snacks, coordination of transportation, first aid, and emergency care.

Adult Day Health programs provide all of these services plus nursing and rehabilitative therapies.

Assistive Technology

Items that increase your independence or substitute for human assistance, specifically with personal care, household, or health related tasks.

Environmental Modifications

Modifications, such as ramps, a grab-bar in the shower or near a toilet, or widening doorways for a wheelchair, may be added to your home to help you adapt to your changing needs safely.

Supportive Housing

For eligible individuals that are homeless, in institutions or have had difficulty in maintaining stable housing, Supportive Housing provides person-centered services to help obtain and maintain housing. This includes housing search, pre-tenancy support and assistance with establishing and maintaining community connections.

Supported Employment

Supported Employment Services help individuals find and maintain competitive employment in their community. Services include assisted in identifying potential jobs and employers, benefits counseling, support through the hiring process and job coaching.

Home Delivered Meals

A daily nutritious meal is delivered to your home.

Individualized Training

Training is provided if you or your caregiver(s) need further information/skills to effectively carry out your care plan or assist you in managing behaviors.

Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies

Necessary medical equipment and supplies may be purchased that isn't covered by Medicaid or Medicare.

Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

An electronic device is provided that allows you to get help in an emergency. The system is connected to your phone or you may also wear a portable "help" button. When activated, staff at a response center will call 911 and/or take whatever action has been set-up ahead of time.

Transportation

Limited transportation is provided to help you get to needed services and activities.

Skills Acquisition Training

Training provided to you to become more independent with your personal care.

Caregiver Management Training

Resources to help you learn how to hire, dismiss, and manage your personal care providers.

Additional Programs

The following programs are limited to certain geographic areas throughout the state. Talk with your social services worker to learn more about these programs.

New Freedom Consumer Directed Services

New Freedom is a program that allows you greater control and choice over the services you receive. With New Freedom, you receive a monthly budget to purchase services and items to help you live as independently as possible.

A consultant knowledgeable about local service options works with you to purchase the services you want. A financial management service pays your service providers and helps you monitor your budget.

New Freedom is currently available in King and Pierce Counties for people who live at home.

Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

PACE provides an integrated, multidisciplinary, team approach to health care and social services for adults 55 and older at a local PACE center. Tailored to meet your individual needs, the PACE center is the focal point for coordinating and providing most services.

PACE is currently available in parts of King County. To learn more about the King County PACE program, call Providence ElderPlace at 206-320-5325.



Residential Housing and Care Options

There are many options where you can live and get care if you choose. Most people are familiar with nursing homes. People are not as familiar with other live-in care options.

Assisted living is often used to describe any live-in care facility that provides housing, basic services and assumes general responsibility for the safety and well-being of residents.

The following is some helpful information about possible residential care housing options for people receiving Apple Health LTSS. The facility must be licensed by Washington State and accept Apple Health LTSS payment for residents.

Adult Family Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

An AFH is licensed to provide housing and care services for up to six people in a house. The AFH may be run by a family with children, a single person, couple, friends, or business partners. The AFH may also hire other employees. Some AFHs allow pets. In some homes, multiple languages may be spoken.

An ALF is licensed to provide housing and care for seven or more people in a home or facility. Housing options range from a room with access to shared living space to your own apartment. ALFs vary in size and ownership from a family operated 7-bed facility to a 150-bed facility operated by a large national corporation.

All AFHs and ALFs provide housing and meals (room and board), varying levels of help with personal care, and assume general responsibility for your safety and care. What additional services are offered is different for each home and may include:

- Intermittent nursing care (a nurse available on a part-time basis).
- Assistance with or administering of medications.
- Specialized care to people living with developmental disabilities, dementia, or mental illness.

Your social services worker will have a listing and knowledge of what homes are available in your local area. A listing of all licensed housing options can also be found on the internet at www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/long-term-care-services-information.

Choosing Care in an Adult Family Home or Assisted Living Facility (DSHS 22-707) is a free booklet from DSHS that talks about how to find and choose the right home for you. The booklet includes a

There are many options where you can live and get care if you can no longer stay at home.

checklist of things to ask and look for that can help you make your decision. Read it on the internet at www.dshs.wa.gov/SESA/publications-library.

Nursing Facilities

Nursing facilities provide 24-hour, supervised nursing care, personal care, therapy, nutrition management, organized activities, social services, room, board, and laundry services.

If you or your loved one will be admitting to a nursing facility, you may find it helpful to compare several different nursing facilities prior to admission. You can compare Medicare and Medicaid certified nursing homes at www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare/search.html. Ratings are based on health inspections, quality measures and staffing ratings.

Entering a nursing home no longer means every person stays forever. People also go to a nursing home for rehabilitation or for short-term, intensive nursing care. Often people get better or decide they want to return home and get services there.

Returning Home after a Stay in a Nursing Facility or Hospital

If you currently live in a nursing facility or have been in the hospital, there may be several services and support available to help you return home or to choose other housing options where you can get the care you need. A nursing facility case manager from your local Home and Community Services office will help you review your care and housing options and work with you to develop a discharge plan.

In addition, your nursing facility case manager can help identify transition services that may be available to you. Examples of these services may include help:

- Exploring your housing options and finding a place to live.
- Creating an individualized discharge and care plan.
- Paying some of your home expenses while you are in a nursing facility (for six months or less).
- Paying for a security deposit or getting utilities turned on.
- Modifying your home to make it safer, such as adding a ramp or bathroom grab bars.
- Getting settled again in the community.

Contact your nursing facility case manager or local Home and Community Services office for more information (see back of this booklet for phone numbers).

You Have a Choice...

This booklet has given you information on applying for Medicaid and your options for care if you are eligible to receive it.

There are many people, options, and resources available to help you stay as independent as possible.

Participating in home and community services is voluntary. You have the right to decline or stop services at any time.

Once you start receiving services, always contact your social services worker if you have questions or your care needs change.

With support, you may not need to stay in a nursing facility.

Community Living Connections (CLC)

Community Living Connections is a trusted, publicly funded network of organizations and programs, named in a variety of ways, such as Aging & Disability Resources, Senior Information & Assistance, or Community Living Connections. Most of them are part of the local Area Agency on Aging. Staff will help you learn about and consider:

- What kind of long-term services and supports best suit your preferences and circumstances?
- What are the different ways to pay for those services?
- What is available in your area?

If you are not sure Apple Health LTSS is for you, you can talk with someone at your local CLC about alternatives to Apple Health/Medicare, and other available options in your area. A person-centered counselor, can help you better define for yourself, what is important to you, what is important for your well-being, and what long-term services and supports might help you achieve your goals while maintaining choice and control over your life.

CLC staff can provide assistance to access wanted programs and services, including those funded by Medicaid, Older Americans Act, the Veterans Health Administration, and other federal, state and local agencies, as well as how to private pay wisely for what you may need.

Visit Washington's Community Living Connections website, www.waclc.org. You'll find many helpful resources available there or you can click on "Get Help Understanding and Accessing Services", then click on your county for contact information. Or you can call 1-855-567-0252 to talk with someone about what services and resources are available where you live.

With support, you may not need to stay in a nursing facility.

Tailored Supports for Older Adults (TSOA)

Tailored Supports for Older Adults (TSOA) is an Apple Health LTSS provided through the 5-year Medicaid Transformation Project Demonstration. It supports unpaid family caregivers who provide care to someone who is 55+ in age. It can also provide limited support to people without a family caregiver. The one receiving care (care receiver) must need some assistance with activities of daily living determined in a brief assessment/screening.

TSOA is for care receivers who have higher financial resources than are typically allowed on Apple Health LTSS; around \$50,000 for a single person and twice that for a married person.

Services provided under TSOA are not subject to Estate Recovery and Client Responsibility (co-pay) as described on pages 8-9 in this book.

TSOA for Individuals with an Unpaid Caregiver

TSOA provides a wide range of services choices for caregivers within program limits:

- Information about caregiving, resources in your community, available services and more.
- Evidence-based consultation.
- Support groups and counseling.
- Durable medical equipment.
- Potential for respite care options or housework and errand support.
- Training opportunities.

TSOA for Individuals without an Unpaid Caregiver

Services choices available through TSOA to individuals without an unpaid caregiver include:

- Personal Care and Nurse Delegation.
- Durable Medical Equipment.
- Training opportunities.
- Adult Day Health.
- Information about resources in your community, available services and more.

Contact your local Community Living Connections (CLC) office at www.waclc.org, call toll free 1-855-567-0252 to be connected to your local CLC office or visit www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/stakeholders/medicaid-transformation-project-demonstration for more information about this program.

Additional Resources for Caregivers

There are several resources to help support family and friends providing unpaid care.

Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP)

The Family Caregiver Support Program helps support unpaid caregivers of adults 18 and older who are either not eligible for or not interested in Apple Health LTSS. You do not have to be applying for or receive Apple Health LTSS to take advantage of these resources. Staff can help you:

- Find local resources/services.
- Find caregiver support groups and counseling.
- Get training on specific caregiving topics or caregiver supplies/equipment.
- Learn if there are options for respite care if you are a caregiver and need a break.
- Talk through specific issues you are having and offer practical information and caregiving suggestions.

Contact your local Community Living Connections office for more information on this program or go to www.altsa.dshs.wa.gov/caregiving. Certain eligibility requirements may apply and services vary from community to community.

Free booklet

The Family Caregiver Handbook (DSHS 22-277) is a free booklet that can help you learn more about all aspects of providing care. See page 23 for ordering information or read it on the Internet at www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/publications/documents/22-277.pdf.

Additional Information

Ordering Publications

You may order this booklet and other DSHS publications through the Department of Enterprise Services – Printing and Imaging. Go to the DES’s website at: <https://prtonline.myprintdesk.net/DSF/storefront.aspx>, formerly the General Store.

Publication requests may also be placed by:

Email at: printing@des.wa.gov

Phone at: 360-664-4343

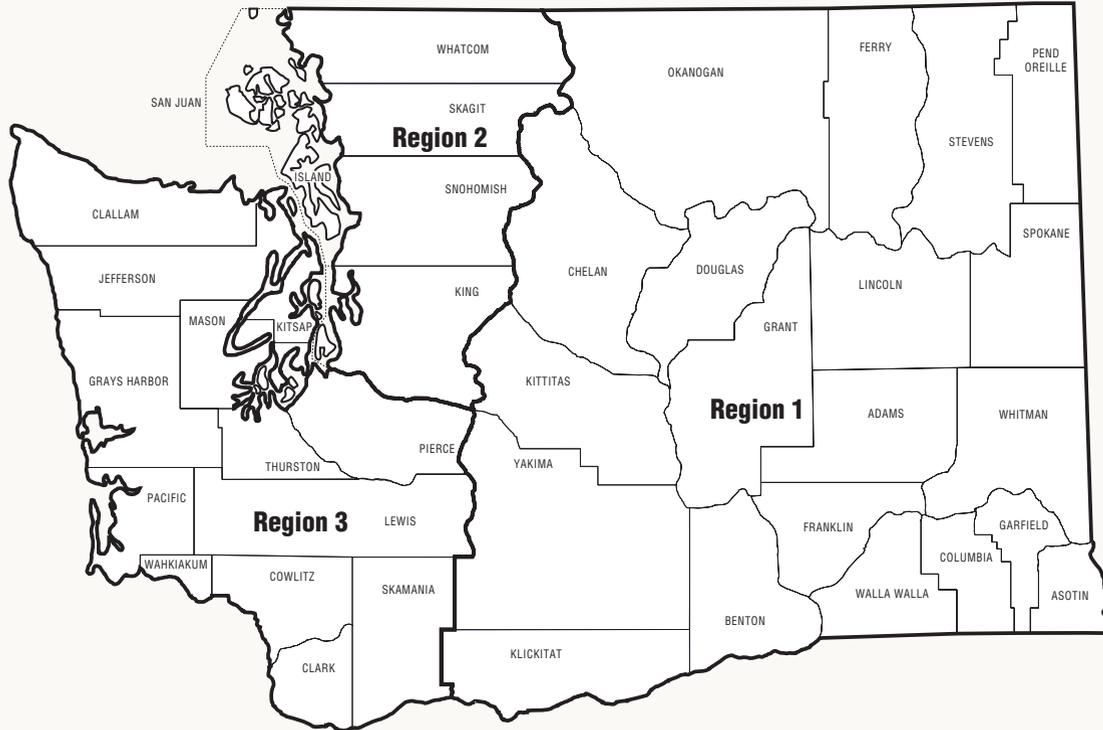
Fax at: 360-664-2048

Make sure to include the name of the publication, publication number, and a contact name and street mailing address.

All publications, including translated versions, listed in this booklet and more can be found and read on-line at <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa> or <https://www.hca.wa.gov/apple-health-client-forms>.

Home and Community Services Regional Phone Numbers

See map to find the region you live in. Call the number listed for your region and ask for the local HCS office nearest you.



REGION 1

509-568-3700
1-800-459-0421
TTY 509-329-3698

Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima Counties

REGION 2

206-341-7600
1-800-346-9257
TTY 1-800-833-6384

Island, King, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties

REGION 3

253-476-7200
1-800-442-5129
TTY 253-593-5471

Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum Counties

Adult Protective Services

We are all partners against adult abuse

Abuse of vulnerable adults (people who need help to care for themselves) can happen anytime, anywhere. DSHS investigates alleged abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment of vulnerable adults.

If you suspect abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult:

Call DSHS toll-free 1-866-363-4276





Transforming lives
