

COVID-19 and Public Benefits

In this time of change, it is important to stay aware of the most current information. Listed below are links to benefit programs and their response to COVID-19.

Federal Benefits and Resources

Social Security Cash Benefits (SSI, SSDI, SSCDB, SSDWB)

<https://www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/>

Medicare

<https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus>

Special Enrollment Period information for clients age 65 and older who are working:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAOIC/bulletins/2843145>

SHIBA is a resource for your Medicare questions: <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/statewide-health-insurance-benefits-advisors-shiba>

Washington State Benefits and Resources

DSHS Community Service Office

The Community Service Office is an entry point for many DSHS benefit programs and community services, including Emergency Programs, Apple Health, Basic Food, and Child Support services.

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/online-community-services-office-cso>

Apple Health (Medicaid) and the DDA Waiver

If you have a disability and wish to apply for Apple Health or report a change in your household situation, go to www.washingtonconnection.org or call 1-877-501-2233.

DDA-eligible with questions about Medicaid and the Waiver can contact a DDA Financial Team member: 1-855-873-0642.

Food benefits

To apply for basic food, or to report a change in income or lost employment, visit www.washingtonconnection.org or call 1-877-501-2233

Unemployment benefits

<https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/covid-19>

Paid Family and Medical Leave

<https://paidleave.wa.gov>

Workers' Compensation (L&I)

Exposure to the Coronavirus and/or being infected with COVID-19 will usually not result in eligibility for Workers' Compensation. However, if your job put you at high risk – for example, if you are a healthcare worker or a first responder – you may qualify.

<https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/workers-compensation-coverage-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions>

Washington State Department of Health

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus>