



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
Economic Services Administration
Post Office Box 45440 Olympia WA 98504-5440

Oct. 16, 2023

Dear interested parties and community partners,

We are excited to share news that the Diaper Related Payment benefit begins Nov. 1, 2023. The Community Services Division will automatically issue \$100 each month to a TANF/SFA household that has an eligible child under 3 years old to support with child-related necessities as diapers, pull-ups and wipes. The passage of [SB 5838](#) (2022 session) and subsequent funding under [ESSB 5187](#) (2023 session) has made the creation and implementation of the Diaper Related Payment benefit possible.

The stress of diaper rash and the experience of diaper need are associated with parental anxiety and elevated levels of maternal-depressive symptoms. Without diaper changes at regular intervals, young children are more susceptible to such health issues as dermatological and urinary tract infections. This additional payment is intended to mitigate cost of these supplies, providing additional support to families with young children.

This payment issues \$100 each month using the same payment method (EBT, EFT or warrant) and on the same day as the client's TANF/SFA cash benefit, making access to this payment seamless and automatic.

It is important to note that this additional payment is countable income for other CSD benefits, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, known as Basic Food. All TANF/SFA families with children under age 3 will experience a positive net increase of unrestricted cash of at least \$40 a month to help with necessities. Each household eligible for this payment will receive a letter in October to inform it of its new eligibility and any impact to its other benefits.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for each of the community partners, agencies and individuals who worked for several years to make this important benefit a reality for our Washington families. We appreciate your ongoing efforts in our shared mission to support families working toward economic stability and your assistance sharing this exciting news with our clients.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Babs Roberts".

Babs Roberts / Director / Community Services Division
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