



Welcome to the Applying For Food Benefits Workshop

If after viewing this presentation-you have additional questions or want further assistance with applying for cash/food benefits please contact us at:

(425) 576 – 5811
BFET@lwtech.edu

We would be happy to help you apply!

(Logos link to websites within slide show)

What are cash benefits?

- ✓ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) comes from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
- ✓ TANF is cash issued to your family each month. The amount depends on your family size and income
- ✓ TANF recipients also get food benefits
- ✓ Having cash benefits can also help you qualify for reduced childcare costs



TANF is a Lifeline

What are food benefits?

- ✓ Food benefits or food stamps come from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
- ✓ There are 2 types of food benefits, state and federal, the type you get can be dependent on your citizenship/immigration status
- ✓ Food benefits are issued on an EBT card monthly. The amount depends on your family size and income
- ✓ Food benefits help you pay for groceries to feed you and your family



Why apply for cash benefits?

Having **TANF** gives you access to the Work First Program which can include:

- ✓ Funding for required books
- ✓ Funding for tuition
- ✓ Childcare assistance through Working Connections Childcare (DSHS)
- ✓ Educational & career advising
- ✓ Assistance with navigating Financial Aid (FAFSA/WASFA) and scholarship applications
- ✓ Priority registration- register 1 day before continuing students

**You must be enrolled in a Professional Technical Program or
Basic Skills/ESL classes**

Why apply for food benefits?

Having federal food benefits gives you access to the Basic Food, Employment and Training (BFET) Program which can include:

- ✓ Funding for books & supplies (up to \$250 per quarter)
- ✓ Tuition assistance
- ✓ Childcare assistance through Working Connections Childcare (DSHS)
- ✓ Eligibility for food benefits if previously denied
- ✓ Educational & career advising
- ✓ Assistance with navigating Financial Aid (FAFSA/WASFA) and scholarship applications

**You must be enrolled in a Professional Technical Program or
Basic Skills/ESL classes**

Discounts available when you are receiving cash/food benefits

May Include:

- ✓ Childcare assistance through Working Connections Childcare (DSHS)
- ✓ Buy \$10 of fresh fruits & vegetables and get a \$5 coupon at participating Safeway stores in Seattle. Learn more at [Fresh Bucks Seattle](#). Or outside of Seattle at [Complete Eats](#)
- ✓ Pacific Science Center discounts
- ✓ Children's Museum Discounts in: Everett, Bellevue, Seattle, and Olympia
- ✓ Woodland Park Zoo & Seattle Aquarium tickets
- ✓ Tacoma: Art, Glass, and History Museum discounts

Where do I apply for cash/food benefits? Washington Connection is a one stop website for resources, including cash/food benefits:

Welcome

[Navigation Tutorial](#)

Washington Connection offers a fast and easy way for families and individuals to apply for a variety of services such as Food, Cash, Child Care, Long-Term Care, and Medicare Savings Programs. Individuals that are age 65 or older, blind or disabled may also apply for medical assistance. Click "See If I Qualify" to get started. [Watch Video](#)

Washington Healthplanfinder offers healthcare coverage for children, parents/caretakers with children, pregnant women, or adults age 18 to 64 years old. For information regarding available services or to apply for benefits, visit www.wahealthplanfinder.org.

See If I Qualify

Apply Now

Find Services

I would like to ...

- ▶ See if I qualify
- ▶ Apply Now
- ▶ Renew my benefits
- ▶ Report a change
- ▶ Complete my mid-certification review
- ▶ Find services

How do I ...

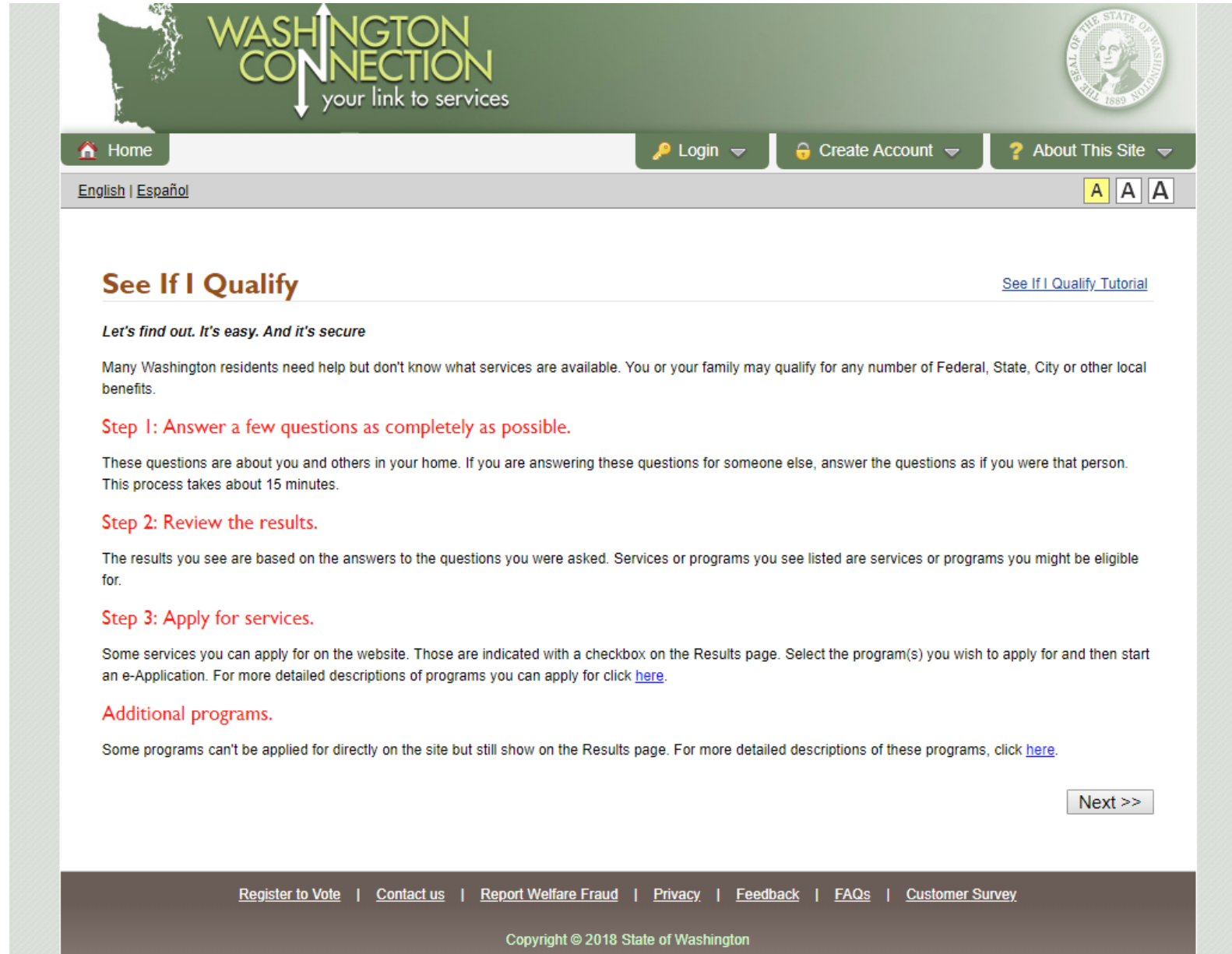
Community partner resources



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Click [here](#) for more Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination information.



- ✓ Washington Connection's website has links to community resources
- ✓ Washington Connection allows you to create your DSHS account so that you can check the status of your application as well as submit paperwork required to keep your benefits
- ✓ Take the short anonymous "[see if I qualify quiz](#)" to find out what resources you might be eligible for



The screenshot shows the Washington Connection website interface. At the top, there is a green header with the Washington state map, the text "WASHINGTON CONNECTION your link to services", and the Seal of the State of Washington. Below the header is a navigation bar with "Home", "Login", "Create Account", and "About This Site" buttons. A language selector shows "English" and "Español", and there are three "A" icons for font size. The main content area features the heading "See If I Qualify" with a "See If I Qualify Tutorial" link. The text explains that many Washington residents need help and provides three steps: 1. Answer questions, 2. Review results, and 3. Apply for services. It also includes links for "Additional programs" and a "Next >>" button.

WASHINGTON CONNECTION
your link to services

Home Login Create Account About This Site

English | Español A A A

See If I Qualify [See If I Qualify Tutorial](#)

Let's find out. It's easy. And it's secure

Many Washington residents need help but don't know what services are available. You or your family may qualify for any number of Federal, State, City or other local benefits.

Step 1: Answer a few questions as completely as possible.

These questions are about you and others in your home. If you are answering these questions for someone else, answer the questions as if you were that person. This process takes about 15 minutes.

Step 2: Review the results.

The results you see are based on the answers to the questions you were asked. Services or programs you see listed are services or programs you might be eligible for.

Step 3: Apply for services.

Some services you can apply for on the website. Those are indicated with a checkbox on the Results page. Select the program(s) you wish to apply for and then start an e-Application. For more detailed descriptions of programs you can apply for click [here](#).

Additional programs.

Some programs can't be applied for directly on the site but still show on the Results page. For more detailed descriptions of these programs, click [here](#).

Next >>

[Register to Vote](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Report Welfare Fraud](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Feedback](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Customer Survey](#)

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What types of questions will they ask?

- ✓ What is your social security number (not required)
- ✓ How long have you lived in the United States
- ✓ How long have you lived in Washington State
- ✓ Your monthly income for the current month
- ✓ Do you have any assets- savings, your home, a car, other income
- ✓ Who lives at your house – that you share food with
- ✓ Are you a student
- ✓ Do you receive other benefits- medical or cash assistance
- ✓ What bills do you have and approximately how much you pay each month for:
 - ✓ Rent/mortgage
 - ✓ Phone
 - ✓ Electricity/Heating
 - ✓ Other living expenses

After completing your online application, call for phone interview (Wait 30 minutes and then call for a phone interview):

1 (877) 501-2233

Monday thru Friday 8:00am — 3:00pm

If you are not approved because you are a student please call (425) 576- 5811 or email bfet@lwtech.edu so we can help!

What if I am not comfortable applying online?

DSHS can do the application with you over the phone. Please call

**General DSHS Phone number:
1 (877) 501-2233**

Have all your information available when applying over the phone

Once you are approved for Cash/Food Benefits

Apply For Workforce Development at Lake Washington Institute of Technology!

- ***FUTURE STUDENTS:*** Attend LWTech College Workforce Development Funding Session - Tuesdays @ 1 PM via Zoom- register at www.lwtech.edu/wfd/ by taking the Start Next Quarter Survey
- ***CURRENT LWTECH STUDENTS:*** Contact us to schedule your Workforce Development Intake Appointment WFD@lwtech.edu or (425) 739-8339

When you complete a WorkForce Development Application we will also evaluate it for these programs:

- ✓ Worker Retraining
- ✓ Opportunity Grant

Filling out one application could make you eligible for 3 funding sources

Benefits of Worker Retraining program can include:

- ✓ Pays for one quarter of college tuition and fees
- ✓ Additional tuition assistance may be available
- ✓ One \$250.00 book voucher
- ✓ Can pay for one quarter of Bachelor of Applied Science courses (no book voucher)
- ✓ Assistance with completing Employment Security Department (ESD) paperwork (Commissioner Approved Training/Training Benefits) for those receiving UI
- ✓ Priority Registration. In future quarters- register 1 day before continuing students

Eligibility includes:

- ✓ LAID OFF WORKERS: collecting or have exhausted UI benefits in the past 48 months
- ✓ VULNERABLE TO LAYOFF: at risk of layoff & have not earned a certificate/degree
- ✓ DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS: recently lost primary source of income due to household change of circumstances (divorce, separation, layoff, death, etc.)
- ✓ MILITARY VETERANS: discharged within the past 48 months
- ✓ ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY: with separation orders
- ✓ PREVIOUSLY SELF-EMPLOYED: business closed due to economic condition

Benefits of Opportunity Grant program can include:

- ✓ Up to 45 credits of tuition and fees
- ✓ Up to \$1,000 for required books and supplies (per academic year)
- ✓ Educational & Career advising
- ✓ Assistance navigating Financial Aid (FAFSA/WASFA) and scholarship applications

To qualify you must:

- ✓ Meet income guidelines
- ✓ Have not earned a degree
- ✓ Be a Washington State resident
- ✓ Be enrolled in qualified LWTech Program:
 - ✓ Accounting
 - ✓ I-BEST
 - ✓ Healthcare
 - ✓ Business Technology

Employment Resource Center is a resource that offers:

- ✓ Online job search
- ✓ Career Events & Workshops
- ✓ Educational & Career advising
- ✓ Resume assistance
- ✓ Interview preparation
- ✓ Career planning

CONTACT US AT
Job.placement@lwtech.edu
(425) 739-8113

Now is a great time to apply for cash/food benefits if:

- ✓ If your income has changed
- ✓ If you need help paying for food, childcare, college tuition, books, or school supplies

Applying for cash/food benefits is a way to get some temporary assistance.

We are here to help you reach your educational and career goals!

Contact us at:

(425) 576 – 5811/ (425) 739- 8131

Or

BFET@lwtech.edu / workfirst@lwtech.edu