

Whatcom County DD Rental Assistance Program

- The DD Rental Assistance Program can help eligible households with one-time housing costs if someone in the household is age 5 or older and enrolled in Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS).
- Households must meet income limits or receive benefits such as SSI, SNAP, or Medicaid.
- You may be able to get help paying for:
 - Rent
 - Past-due rent or utility bills
 - Security deposits
 - First or last month's rent
 - Mortgage
 - Utility bills like electricity, water, gas, propane, trash, or wood stove pellets
- This is not ongoing monthly help. It is meant to help with urgent housing / financial needs.

For more information contact your DDCS Case Resource Manager or the Whatcom County Health & Community Services DD Program at DDInfo@co.whatcom.wa.us or 360-778-6012.



Whatcom County DD Rental Assistance Program

The Developmental Disabilities (DD) Rental Assistance Program provides limited financial support to eligible households to address critical needs. Please review the following parameters when considering a referral.

Who Can Be Served

- Households must have at least one individual **age 5 or older enrolled with Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS, formerly DDA)**
- Living in **family home or renting own home**
- **Not** in supported living services
- Financial Eligibility:
 - Evidence of household income at or below 60% AMI

Household Size	60% AMI Monthly Income is equal to or less than
1	\$3,360
2	\$3,840
3	\$4,320
4	\$4,800
5	\$5,185
6	\$5,570
7	\$5,955
8	\$6,340

- **OR** proof of public assistance for entire household such as SNAP food benefits, Medicaid, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Housing cost burden:
 - Housing cost burden is an evidence-based predictor of homelessness. It occurs when a household spends more than 30% of their gross household income on housing costs (including essential utilities). Cost burden is considered to be “severe” when housing costs exceed 50% of gross household income.

What Can Be Paid For

- Housing: rent, arrears, security deposit, pet deposit, first months’ rent, last months’ rent, in-unit washer/dryer rental, mortgage
 - All households who are eligible for the program can have the **current month’s** rent paid
 - If the household is **severely cost burdened, one month of future** rent may be paid. Severely cost burdened means that housing expenses are 50% or more of household gross monthly income.
 - If the household has arrears or past due utilities, **up to three months of past due** rent and/or utilities may be paid
- Utilities: electric, propane, natural gas, water and sewer, trash, wood stove pellets
- Additional assistance for household expenses not covered through another means will be considered upon request and must be approved by Whatcom County DD Program Staff
- This fund is **not ongoing financial assistance**; it is a one-time support to help families address priority needs

Funding Limits

- Eligible households can receive assistance once a year
- **Maximum: \$3,000 per household per calendar year**
- One allocation per household (not per individual)

Referral Process

- DDCS Case Resource Managers, Opportunity Council (OC) Community Resource Center, school district staff, and other community partners should send referrals to County DD Staff and include a signed Release of Information.