

**WAC 110-15-0023 Homeless grace period (HGP).** (1) Families experiencing homelessness will be eligible for HGP and will have a certification period of twelve months:

(a) When homelessness is verified within thirty days of the date of application or reapplication;

(b) When the family has not received HGP in the twelve calendar months prior to the month of application or reapplication; and

(c) When the family meets all eligibility requirements under WAC 170-290-0005 and 170-290-0030, except:

(i) Verifying participation or participating in approved activities in WAC 170-290-0040, 170-290-0045, 170-290-0050, or 170-290-0055; or

(ii) Providing required third-party verification of employment within thirty days of receipt of an application or reapplication; or

(iii) Having an outstanding copayment or not having a payment plan for the outstanding copayment.

(2) Families eligible for HGP will have a period of four months to provide:

(a) Verification of participation in approved activities in WAC 170-290-0040, 170-290-0045, 170-290-0050, or 170-290-0055;

(b) Required third-party verification of employment; and

(c) Verification of payment or payment plan arrangements for an outstanding copayment.

(3) Families must report changes as required in WAC 170-290-0031 and will remain eligible for HGP through the end of the fourth month, if their homeless status changes.

(4) If received in months one through four, the verification required in subsection (3) of this section will not need reverification for care to continue during months five through twelve.

(5) The four-month period begins on the first date of eligibility, which is the date of application or reapplication and the first month may be a partial month. The four-month period ends on the last day of the fourth month.

(6) Termination of HGP will occur on the last day of the fourth month if the family does not:

(a) Verify they have entered an approved activity;

(b) Provide the required third-party verification of employment;

(c) Pay or make payment arrangements of an outstanding copayment.

(7) DSHS will approve HGP for families using WCCC for the fourteen-day wait period (WAC 170-290-0055). If the family has verified their homeless status but not entered the approved activity by the fourteenth day:

(a) HGP is approved the first day following the end of the fourteen-day wait period instead of terminating WCCC;

(b) The copayment is waived effective the first day of the month following the last day of the fourteen-day wait period; and

(c) The copayment is waived for the remainder of the four-month period, even if it is less than four months.

(d) When homelessness is verified and HGP approved, an overpayment will not be established for the fourteen-day wait period.

(8) DSHS will approve HGP for families using WCCC for the sixty days of self-attestation of new employment (WAC 170-290-0012). If the family has verified their homeless status but not provided the required employment verification by the sixtieth day:

(a) HGP is approved the first day following the end of the sixty days of self-attestation period instead of terminating WCCC;

(b) The copayment is waived effective the first day of the month following the last day of the sixty days of self-attestation period; and

(c) The copayment is waived for the remainder of the HGP, even if it is less than four months.

(d) An overpayment is not established for the sixty days of self-attestations if homelessness is verified and HGP is approved.

(9)(a) HGP copayments will be determined at initial eligibility determination and be waived for the first four months. A copayment is required for months five through month twelve.

(b) If the copayment exceeds fifteen dollars, the family will not be eligible for the fifteen dollars copayment during the first two months of paying a required copayment.

(10) Families will be approved for full-time care during the four months of HGP and the remainder of the eligibility period. Full-time care means:

(a) Twenty-three full day units when the child needs five or more hours of care per day;

(b) Thirty half day units when the child needs less than five hours of care per day;

(c) Thirty half day units during the months of September through June when the child is school-aged; or

(d) Forty-six half day units during the months of July and August when the child is school-aged.

(11)(a) Only licensed, certified or DEL-contracted providers shall be authorized to provide child care during the four months of HGP. Payment to the provider will be either the provider rate or state rate, whichever is less.

(b) In-home/relative providers shall not be authorized to provide child care for families during the HGP, regardless of changes reported.

(c) Families may choose in-home/relative providers to provide care during months five through twelve, under WAC 170-290-0125, 170-290-0130 and 170-290-0190.

(d) The four months of HGP are nontransferable; families may not change the four months of HGP, even when care was not provided.

[WSR 18-14-078, recodified as § 110-15-0023, filed 6/29/18, effective 7/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.215.060, 43.215.070, and chapter 43.215 RCW. WSR 17-12-013, § 170-290-0023, filed 5/26/17, effective 6/26/17.]