

**WAC 388-410-0010 Repayment of grant overpayment occurring prior to April 3, 1982, and resulting department error.** (1) An assistance unit will not be held liable for an overpayment occurring prior to April 3, 1982, which was caused by departmental error, until the department determines recovery would not be inequitable. Recovery is considered inequitable if:

(a) The department informed the recipient or the recipient's authorized representative that the recipient was entitled to part or all of the financial assistance or services overpaid; or

(b) The department acted in a manner which would reasonably lead the recipient to believe he/she was eligible to receive the assistance or services overpaid; and

(c) The recipient retained or accepted the assistance with the understanding that he/she had the right to rely upon the information received from the department; and

(d) The recipient would suffer an injury if the department were allowed to refuse to recognize the department's admission, statement, act or omission; and

(e) Injury as used in this section includes liability for repayment of a debt due the state.

(2) If the department determines recovery would be inequitable:

(a) The recipient is not liable for repayment;

(b) The overpayment is not a debt due the state; and

(c) The recipient is so informed.

(3) If recovery would not be inequitable, the recipient will be notified:

(a) Of the specific reason why recovery is not inequitable;

(b) That the recipient is liable for repayment of the debt;

(c) Whether the overpayment is subject to a mandatory deduction from the current grant; and

(d) Of the right to contest the decision.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.057 and 74.08.090. WSR 98-16-044, § 388-410-0010, filed 7/31/98, effective 9/1/98.]