

Ongoing Additional Requirements Program

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services
Economic Services Administration • Community Services Division

Program Description

The Ongoing Additional Requirements program provides a state-funded payment to a person with a need of assistance (beyond food, clothing and shelter) that is necessary to help them continue to live independently. Customers may request OAR benefits if they receive assistance from one of the following programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; State Family Assistance; Refugee Cash Assistance; Pregnant Women Assistance; Aged, Blind or Disabled cash assistance; Housing and Essential Needs Referral or Supplemental Security Income. A social services specialist must determine the person has an essential need for an item or service to live independently. Once approved, we review OAR eligibility every six to 24 months, depending on the customer and the need.

We provide support through:

- **Cash assistance.** OAR provides payments for:
 - Restaurant or home-delivered meals.
 - Basic telephone service.
 - Laundry.
 - Care for a service animal including food, veterinary costs and boarding.
 - Internet.
 - Transportation.
 - Dentures.
 - Optometrist care and eyeglasses.
 - Hearing aids.
- **Links to resources.** We work together with OAR customers to build connections with local resources including:
 - Community and social service agencies.
 - Home and Community Services Offices within DSHS Aging and Long-Term Support Administration.
 - Developmental disability services and supports within DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration.

Highlights in SFY 2023

An average of 471 individuals per month received OAR supports, with an average payment of \$39.19 a month.

Effective April 1, 2024, OAR supports expanded to individuals with an incapacity (also known as HEN Referral Program recipients) and created new benefit categories and updated payment standards for existing benefits.

More information:

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Transforming lives

(9/2024)

OAR Facts

Trends

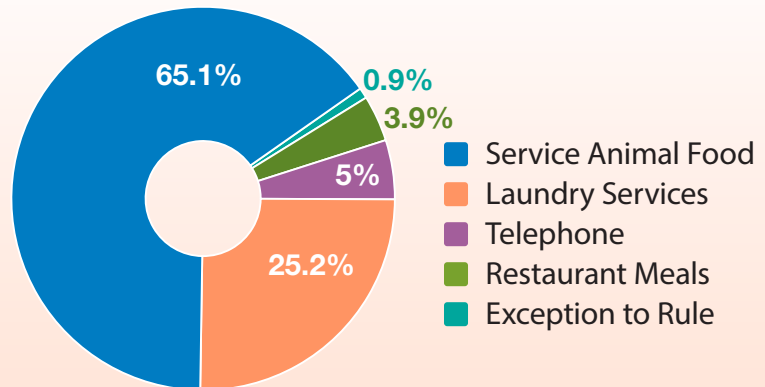
The program served an average of 471 customers each month in SFY 2023.

FY 2022 **441**

FY 2023 **471**

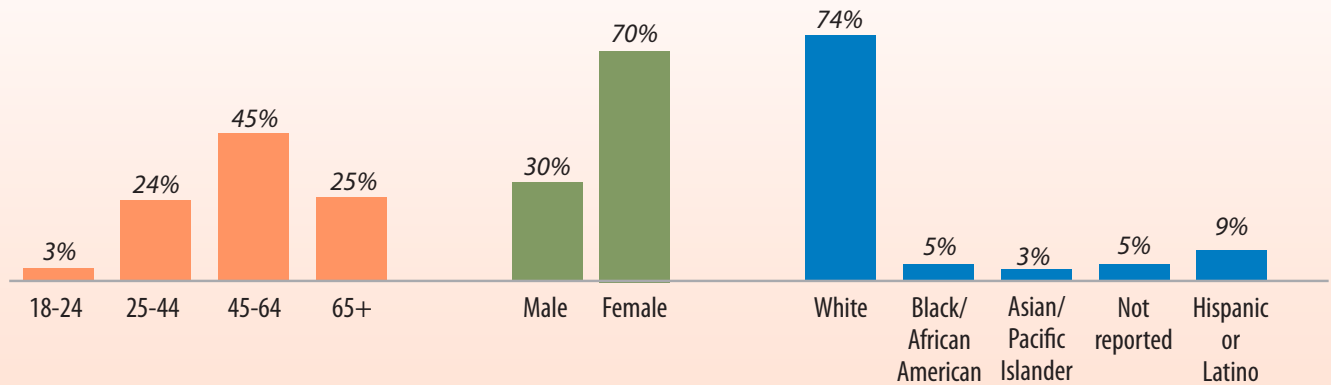
7% Increase

Average Monthly OAR Caseload by Service Type



Demographics

The average age of an OAR recipient is 54 years old.



Challenges

13%

Are experiencing homelessness

98%

Have a disabling condition

Budget

OAR accounted for less than 1% of state spending in the 2021-2023 biennium.

