

Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect and be able to meet their most basic needs. The most marginalized and vulnerable populations should not have to pay back the meager assistance they receive.

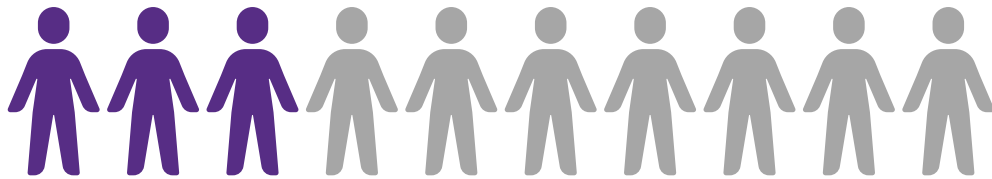
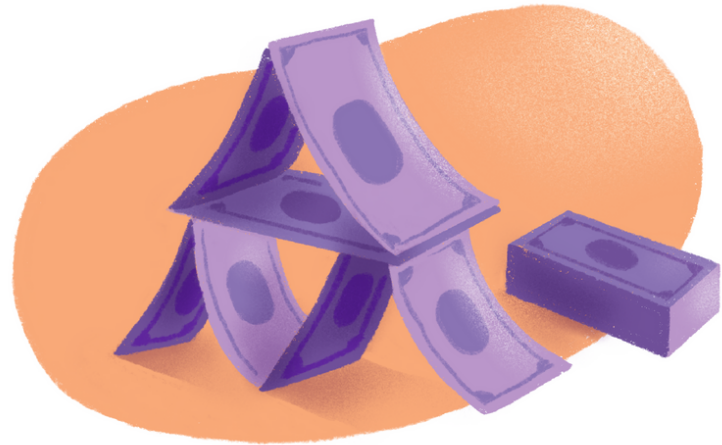
Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) 101

ABD (Aged, Blind, Disabled) is a cash assistance program for disabled adults without dependents who are likely to qualify for Social Security (Disability) Income. Single people can receive up to \$417 per month total assistance, or \$528 for married couples. In 2022, the average monthly payment was \$184.76.

In 2022, the average number of ABD program clients per month in Washington state was 21,847. 77% of that population (16,748 persons) are those pending SSI.

Only very low income, adults with disabilities qualify for ABD

- To be eligible for the program, individuals cannot have more than \$6,000 in total resources
- Some special populations, such as victims of human trafficking, are also eligible for this benefit



- In 2022, 30.6% of ABD recipients, **7,311 people**, were experiencing homelessness

Once recipients transfer onto SSI/SSDI, the state requires all ABD assistance to be paid back from their SSI

- The average length of stay on ABD for those pending SSI is 24.6 Months. This means Washington requires people to pay back an average of \$4,545 to the state after this transition.

ABD repayment is an overwhelming burden for those living in deep poverty.