

# WHAT IS A WAC?

Washington Administrative Codes (WAC) govern welfare policy in Washington State. Welfare program rules are actually state law. You can access and cite the program rules from the same source your worker gets them. Your caseworker should be able to cite a WAC for every rule they are asking you to follow.

We work hard to put these facts together in a way we hope will be useful to you. Please use this book for your own self- advocacy, but also share this information with others.

**Let's take back our power!**

The rules in this book were current when you received it. However, DSHS rules change often, so please double check the WACs at:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wac/index.cfm?fuseaction=title&title=388>

This is the Washington State Legislature site. The rules that govern welfare programs all start with 388. You can also find other handy information here, like who is are your elected officials and how you can contact them. Remember, they are the ones who create and govern welfare law.

If you don't have access to the internet, you can find current WACs at your local library. If you have trouble finding or interpreting them, contact us, we'll look at them with you

## More useful websites

Here are other publications your caseworker uses to understand how to do their job:

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/esa/eazmanual/>

and the WorkFirst Handbook:

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/esa/WFHAND/>

Working Connections Child Care Manual: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/esa/wccc/>

The Northwest Justice Project, a Washington State Legal Services Organization, provides a website that includes legal information in English, Spanish and Russian for public benefits as well as other civil legal matters at: <http://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/>

**Brought to you by your local Welfare Rights Organization.**

**Join us to fight for better welfare policies and better treatment at your local welfare office!**

**701 Franklin Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501**

**360-352-9716 in Olympia, or toll free at 866-343-9716**

**[welfarerights@riseup.net](mailto:welfarerights@riseup.net) <http://welfarerights.wikispaces.com/>**