

Skagit County ReEntry Resource Guide

Disclaimer

The information provided by this document and in the linked documents is not legal advice. These documents are intended only to provide information to help guide you and provide a starting point for finding additional resources that may help you. The information in this document is not a substitute for and does not replace the advice or representation of a licensed attorney.

We have done our best to verify that the information in these documents is accurate, but we can make no claim as to the accuracy of the information and are not responsible for what happens as a result of following the information in these documents. You should not and are not authorized to rely on this document as a source of legal advice.

Because you may need to access some resources online, we provide a list of local libraries where you may be able to access computers, printers, and technical help at the beginning of this resource guide. As some libraries require proof of identification, please see the information following this list on how to obtain such identification if you do not have any.

Additionally, while we have done our best as to the program information mentioned in this guide, the impacts from economic or legal changes and/or COVID-19 are ever-changing. Please contact the organizations to determine if there are any such changes or Washingtonlawhelp.org for any changes in the law.

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Libraries: Internet Access and More

Public libraries offer a variety of services including access to newspapers, magazines, books, CDs, movies, computers, internet, free workshops, children’s learning activities and more.

Anacortes Public Library

Location: 1220 10th St, Anacortes

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Open: Mondays - Fridays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: (360) 293-1910

Website: www.cityofanacortes.org/library_1.php

No proof of identification required.

Burlington Public Library

Location: 820 East Washington Ave, Burlington

Open: Monday, Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Phone: (360) 755-0760

Website: www.burlingtonwa.gov/library

Proof of identification required to obtain library card. Without a library card, Guest pass required to use computers, however WiFi available to anyone in the library.

Central Skagit Library

Location: 100 W State St, Suite C, Sedro-Woolley

Open: Mondays - Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Phone: (360) 755-3985

Website: www.centralskagitlibrary.org

No proof of identification required.

La Conner Regional Library

Location: 119 N. Third Street, La Conner

Open: call for hours

Phone: (360) 466-3352

Website: www.lclib.lib.wa.us

No proof of identification required. Membership required for inLearning Program.

Mount Vernon City Library

Location: 315 Snoqualmie St, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 336-6209

Open: Mondays - Fridays: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Website: www.mountvernonwa.gov/library

Proof of Identification required to use computers; WiFi accessible to all in library.

General Community Services

Community Partnership for Transition Solutions (CPTS)

Info: CPTS is made up of agencies and individuals working together to support successful transitions for people returning to our communities after incarceration. Click [here](#) to find the county partnership serving Skagit and Island counties. For other counties, click [here](#).

Phone: 360-480-6281

Email: skagitislandcpts@gmail.com

Community Action of Skagit County

Info: Community Action is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3), serving homeless and low-income families and individuals. Its mission is to help people improve their lives through education, support, and direct assistance while advocating for just and equitable communities. Its programs include, among others housing, energy/utility assistance, food, clothing, shelter. For specific information on its programs, either go to its website or look under specific subject matter headings below.

Location: 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/housing-resource-center/>

Northwest Justice Project

Info: The Northwest Justice Project provides free legal assistance to address fundamental human needs such as housing, family safety, income security, health care, education, and more. Our work challenges structural and racial inequities to promote the long-term well-being of low-income individuals, families and communities across Washington State. It provides do-it-yourself court forms, applications for legal help, and self-help legal resources.

Website: <https://nwjustice.org/home>

Local ReEntry Resource Centers

Community Partnership for Transition Solutions (CPTS)

Info: CPTS is made up of agencies and individuals working together to support successful transitions for people returning to our communities after incarceration. Click [here](#) to find the county partnership serving Skagit and Island counties. For other counties, click [here](#).

Phone: 360-480-6281

Email: skagitislandcpts@gmail.com

Department of Correction Community Supervision Field Office - Mount Vernon

Info: Field offices are used for staff, programming and as places for individuals under community supervision to report.

Location: 205 West Stewart Road, Suite 106, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (360) 488-4800

Department of Correction Community Justice Center- Everett

Info: The Department of Corrections (DOC) has established six [Community Justice Centers \(CJs\)](#) throughout the state for the purpose of providing comprehensive services and monitoring for offenders who are reentering the community. A community justice center is a nonresidential facility staffed primarily by the department in which recently released offenders may access services necessary to improve their successful re-entry into the community. Such services may include but are not limited to, those listed in the individual re-entry plan, mental health, chemical dependency, sex offender treatment, anger management, parenting education, financial literacy, housing assistance, and employment assistance. Services provided by the Everett Center can be found at <https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/community/justice-centers/docs/everett-program-schedules.pdf>

Location: 8625 Evergreen Way, Suite 108, Everett, WA 98208 (closest office to Skagit County)

Phone: (425) 356-2800

Department of Corrections Reentry Resources

Info: a list of resources, including DOC policies, laws, publications and links to resources for the formerly incarcerated.

Website: <https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/community/resources.htm>

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Skagit County District and Municipal Court -Community Court

Location: Parker Building, 1700 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (360) 416-1275

Civil Survival

Info: supports formerly incarcerated individuals across Washington state to vacate convictions, reduce Legal Financial Obligations (LFOs), and access resources. It also organizes the formerly incarcerated community to lead legislative and policy reform efforts. Resources can be accessed on its website [here](#).

Mailing Address: PO Box 634, Port Orchard, WA

Contact: <https://civilsurvival.org/contact/>

Website: <https://civilsurvival.org>

Identification: Driver's License

*the following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide and updated where necessary.

"Six months prior to your release from a facility, you should be given an official notice that provides information regarding how the Department of Corrections can assist you in obtaining a Washington State driver's license." The Department of Licensing has agreements with the following correctional agencies

- Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC)
- U.S. Federal correction authorities (FDOC)
- Department of Social and Health Services Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (DSHS JRA)

"Once you have received this notice (it may be called a Verification ID letter), and before you are released, make an appointment to talk with your counselor about obtaining a driver's license. Your counselor should submit an electronic verification letter to the Department of Licensing (DOL) no earlier than 45 days prior to your release. It is very important to know when your counselor submits this letter. The electronic verification letter will stay on file at the DOL for 60 days from the date it was filed, meaning that it may expire as soon as 15 days after your release."

"After you are released, bring your Department of Corrections (DOC) Identification Badge to your local DOL office as soon as possible." **DOL office locations:** <https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/dolprod/dsdoffices/>

Additional info: make sure to bring proof of identity, form of payment for fee(s), social security number or proof of address. You will need to take a picture once there.

In Skagit County, there are DOL offices in Anacortes and Mount Vernon.

Mount Vernon: 1920 S 3rd St, Mt Vernon, WA 98273-4916, Phone: 360.416.7563

Anacortes: 913 10th St. Ste C & D, Anacortes, WA 98221-4186, Phone: 360.588.0508

How do I find out the status of my Washington State driver's license?

"If you know your driver's license number, you can use the DOL's online service to find out the status of your license": https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/extdriveses/NoLogon/_/

"If the portal said NO, you can get personalized instructions on how to reinstate your license by using a different online tool from the DOL": <https://secure.dol.wa.gov/home/>

How do I renew an expired license?

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Typically, a license needs to be renewed every six years.

Cost: \$54. An additional \$10 fee is added if you do not renew your license within 60 days of the expiration date. You cannot renew your license if it's been expired for more than six years and must apply for a new license.

Update/change address online: <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/addresschange.html>. There is no cost to update your address, but if you wish to have your license reflect your new address, you will need to pay a \$20 fee. If you update/change your address in person at the local DOL office, the fee is \$10.

Renew in person: visit local DOL office.

Renew via mail: print form from www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500038.pdf and mail to local DOL office.

How do I apply for a new license?

To get a new Washington State driver's license, you must be an official resident of Washington state, be 18 years or older, and not have held a driver's license, instruction permit, state ID card, enhanced driver's license or ID card before.

Cost: \$89

Cost to replace: \$20

Before applying: must take and pass the knowledge test on rules of the road AND take pass a driving test, which you will need a year-long instruction permit (can get at a DOL office for a \$25 fee). There are testing fees.

Study material in several languages: www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/guide.html

Schedule knowledge test: www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/testlocations.html

Schedule driving test: www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/testlocations.html

Pre-apply online: <https://secure.dol.wa.gov/home/newDriver.aspx>

Pre-apply in person: visit a local DOL office

What do I do if my license has been suspended?

"License suspensions can be civil or criminal: civil means that you have received a ticket, fine, or other type of citation, and criminal means that you have committed a vehicular crime. Most license suspensions are civil, but a few serious offenses, such as [Driving Under the Influence \(DUI\)](#) or repeated reckless driving, are criminal. Information about civil suspensions, go to <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/suspensions.html> for help to figure out what steps to take to reinstate your license. Information about criminal suspensions is not available on the DOL relicensing tool and you will have to contact the DOL to get an abstract of your driving record."

First find out why it has been suspended because the process to reinstate it depends on the cause, which may require you to satisfy your court requirements and fines and pay a licensing and reinstatement fee.

If you know your driver's license number and want to find out the cause of suspension, go here:

<https://secure.dol.wa.gov/home/>

Other useful information about suspended license:

Got Unpaid Traffic Tickets? How To Avoid Getting Your Driver License Suspended:

<https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/got-unpaid-traffic-tickets-how-to-avoid-getti?ref=LhJ7K>

Child Support and License Suspension: <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/what-to-do-about-a-license-suspension-notice?ref=LhJ7K>

Reinstating my Washington State Driver's License

"You should be aware that you might have to pay a number of fines and fees when you reinstate your license. For instance, there may be certain court fees you are required to pay depending on the circumstances of your

license suspension or revocation.” Additional fees by the Washington DOL for license reinstatement are as follows:

Getting your license reinstated after a non-alcohol-related suspension
Getting your license reinstated after an alcohol-related suspension
Getting a probationary license after a DUI conviction or deferred prosecution
Applying for an Occupational/Restricted License (ORL)
Applying for an Ignition Interlock Driver’s license (IIL)

If you need a driver’s license to get to work, school, court-ordered community service, substance abuse treatment, driving to healthcare provider, caring for a dependent, or applying for on-the-job training, you can apply for either the Occupational/Restricted License or the Ignition Interlock Driver’s License.

Occupation/Restricted Driver’s license (ORL)

Cost: \$100

You must have a Washington driver’s license. You will not be eligible if you have convicted a vehicular homicide in the past seven years, have a DUI, vehicular assault, violation of court-ordered probation or failure to pay child support. But see the eligibility criteria for other ineligible convictions.

Eligibility criteria: www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/orl.html

To apply online, fill out the Restricted Driver License Application: www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500001.pdf. You must provide one of the following as proof of financial responsibility:

- A certificate of insurance (SR-22), which you can get from an auto insurance agent
- A State Treasurer’s certificate of deposit of \$60,000 or approved collateral of equal value; or
- A surety bond executed by the person giving proof and a surety company authorized to do business in Washington State, or by the person giving proof and by 2 additional sureties.

If you are denied an ORL, you can request a hearing with the DOL via a hearing request form, which should be included in the denial letter. Please return the request form or a letter requesting a hearing to

Hearings and Interviews
Department of Licensing
Box 9031
Olympia, WA 98507-9031

Ignition Interlock Driver’s License (IIL)

Allows you to drive after a conviction for a drug or alcohol-related offense. To apply for an IIL, you first must have an Ignition Interlock Device (IID) installed on all vehicles you drive by an installer certified by the Washington State Patrol. Must maintain an IID on all vehicles you drive* and may be required to drive with an IID installed for a certain period of time depending on your conviction. Go to <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/driver/duiimpaired-driving/ignition-interlock/> for a list of all certified devices and installers.

Cost: \$100. <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/iil.html>

Eligibility criteria: Must have an unexpired Washington State driver’s license or valid out of state driver’s license. Must have an arrest or conviction of DUI or Physical Control involving drugs or alcohol; reckless

driving; vehicular assault involving drugs or alcohol; vehicular homicide involving drugs or alcohol; suspension must not include minor in possession or habitual traffic offender.

If you think you may qualify for financial assistance for costs associated with an IID, apply here:

www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500024.pdf

To apply online, fill out the Restricted Driver License Application: www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500001.pdf AND must provide one of the following as proof of financial responsibility:

- A certificate of insurance (SR-22), which you can get from an auto insurance agent;
- A State Treasurer's certificate of deposit of \$60,000 or approved collateral of equal value; or
- A surety bond executed by the person giving proof and a surety company authorized to do business in Washington State, or by the person giving proof and by 2 additional sureties.

*An IID may be waived for **work vehicles** if you have your employer sign the Employer Declaration for Ignition Interlock Exemption form, available at www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500025.pdf. Mail a copy of this signed form to DOL before you drive those vehicles for work and carry a copy of the declaration with you whenever you drive a work vehicle that isn't equipped with an IID.

"If you don't know your driver's license number, you can get the same information by purchasing a copy of your driving record for \$13. If you have a credit card and an email address and a printer, you can do this online at <https://dol.wa.gov/licenseexpress.html>

Alternatively, you can fill out a Driving Record Request form (available online at www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500009.pdf), and send it to the following address":

Driver Records
Department of Licensing
PO Box 3907
Seattle, WA 98124-3907

Include a check or money order for \$13 payable to "Department of Licensing." Your request will take roughly two weeks to process.

For financial assistance on a waiver of the administrative fee for a DUI hearing on the suspension or revocation of your driver license OR to apply for assistance with the costs of Ignition Interlock Device (IID) installation, removal, and leasing the IID, use the following form:

<https://www.dol.wa.gov/forms/500024.pdf>

Identification: Washington State I.D.

How do I get a Washington State I.D. card?

Go to your local DOL office (<https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/dolprod/dsdoffices/>) and bring the following:

- Proof of I.D.: Acceptable proof is the same as what is required for a driver's license. Go to <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/idproof.html>)
- Pay the \$54 fee (\$78 for an Enhanced I.D. Card) by credit or debit card or through your bank if you have a checking account.
- If you are under 18, you must bring your social security card and proof you have a valid Washington address (I don't know

For general information on I.D. cards, go to <https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/gettingidcard.html>

How do I reinstate my Washington State I.d. card?

If your ID card is expired, lost, or stolen, renewing or replacing it is easy. You can renew by visiting a DOL office or by using the online tool at https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/extdriveses/NoLogon/_/. To renew online, you will need your ID card number, the last four digits of your Social Security number, an email address, and a credit card. The fee to renew your ID card is \$54 for six years. To replace a lost or stolen I.D. card, the fee of \$20.

Identification: Social Security Card

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

How do I get an original social security card?

To get an original card, you will need to provide the Social Security Administration (SSA) with a number of documents proving your identity, age, and citizenship or immigration status. You must provide original documents or copies certified by the agency that issued them. Depending on your situation, you may need to provide additional documents as well. The SSA cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies. All documents must be current (not expired). The SSA also cannot accept a receipt showing you applied for the document you are using to prove your identity, age, or citizenship—they will need to see the original document. Note that the SSA may use one document for two purposes; for example, they may use your U.S. passport as proof of both citizenship and identity. However, you must provide at least two separate documents.

You will also need to fill out the Application for a Social Security card (available at www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf) and bring or mail it, along with any required documents, to your local Social Security office. Go to <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/ic001.action#officeResults> to find your local office.

“If you legally change your name because of marriage, divorce, court order or any other reason, you need to tell Social Security so that you can get a corrected card.” You will need to provide proof of your legally changed named, for example:

- Marriage license;
- Divorce decree;
- Certificate of naturalization showing your new name; or
- Court order approving your name change.

The document supporting the name change must be recent and identify you by both your old and new names. If the document you provide as evidence of a legal name change does not give SSA enough information to identify you in its records or if you changed your name more than two years ago (four years ago if you are under 18 years of age), you must show SSA an identity document in your prior name (as shown in its records). SSA will accept an identity document in your old name that has expired.

Identification: Birth Certificate

*the following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated as necessary:

To order your birth certificate online, go to VitalChek at www.vitalchek.com/.

The National Center for Health Statistics provides contact information for every state’s vital record’s office, along with fee amounts and other information for each state. Visit www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm. For Washington specific information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/washington.htm>

Identification: U.S. Passport

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

The process of applying for a Passport is complicated and you will need to provide supporting documentation to prove your identity and that you are a U.S. citizen. You can find more details on the application process by visiting: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply/forms.html>

Some restrictions that may apply to you depending on your criminal history or other circumstances, which are outlined in the bullet points below:

- **Prior convictions and arrests:** If you have been convicted of a federal or state drug offense or convicted of a "sex tourism" crimes statute, or are subject to an outstanding federal, state, or local warrant of arrest for a felony; a criminal court order forbidding my departure from the United States; a subpoena received from the United States in a matter involving federal prosecution for, or grand jury investigation of, a felony, you may apply for a U.S. Passport, but your application may be denied. For instance, federal law disqualifies convicted international drug traffickers from obtaining a Passport during their incarceration and subsequent parole or community supervision. Additionally, if you already have a Passport and are convicted of one of these crimes, your existing Passport may be revoked.
- **Unpaid child support:** If you owe \$2,500 or more in unpaid child support, you will not be eligible for a Passport. You will become eligible once you pay down your child support debt.

General Housing Assistance

* The following information is pulled in large part from the 2019 Skagit County Community Resource Guide.

Housing Resource Center:

Info: The Housing Resource Center serves as the primary point-of-entry for the Coordinated Entry System in Skagit County. Anyone experiencing homelessness, or at imminent risk of homelessness, is encouraged to apply. They also provide a [list of Affordable housing](#) in Skagit County for those who are struggling with locating affordable housing.

Location: Community Action of Skagit County, 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/housing-resource-center/>

Emergency Shelters

Skagit County Government

Info: During cold or inclement weather, Skagit County will post on its website a list of the Cold Weather and Warming Shelters available. Go to the website below.

Website: https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/Home?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Friendship House

Info: the largest emergency housing provider in Skagit County and the only single men's shelter. Friendship House offers a self-sufficiency program that focuses on helping residents find employment and stable housing. Residents may live in the shelter for up to 90 days while working on an individual action plan developed with House Managers. Friendship House provides residents with meals, clothing, personal care items and supportive services during their stay. Residents of our houses agree to follow house rules including being clean and sober, refraining from panhandling, following their action plans, being nonviolent and participating in household chores and donation hours.

Eligibility: Individuals with a Class A or Felony 1 conviction, Arson conviction or are a registered sex offender are not accepted. Additionally, you must have been released from an institution for one year (Women's and Children's Shelter).

Location: 1008 S. Third Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (Men's shelter)

922 S. Third Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (Women and Children's Shelter)

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday (9 A.M. to 3 P.M.), Wednesday (9 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.). Closed: Friday through Sunday

Phone: 360-336-2135 (Men's shelter); 360-336-2418 (Women and Children's Shelter)

Email: <https://www.skagitfriendshiphouse.org/contact.html>

Skagit First Step

Info: Skagit First Step is a 24/7 emergency temporary homeless shelter which includes individual cabins and provides 24/7 onsite management and overnight security. Residents may live in the shelter for up to 90 days while working on an individual action plan developed with House Managers. Some of the on-site services are mental health support, substance abuse support, employment services, medical visits, meal services, transportation services, and laundry.

Exceptions: While the program accepts individuals recently released from jail/prison, individuals with a Class A or Felony 1 conviction, Arson conviction or who are registered sex offenders are not accepted.

Location: 465 Pease Road, Burlington.

Open: 24 hours every day

Phone: 360-755-9525

Contact: Olivia for an appointment or contact Skagit Community Action at 360-416-7585.

Anacortes Family Center

Info: The AFC has several housing programs in place and provides a list of community resources directed at housing needs. Go to <https://anacortes-family.squarespace.com/housing>

Location: 2702 Commercial Ave., Anacortes WA 98221

Open: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily

Phone: 360-293-2993, ext. 108

Email: info@anacortesfamily.org

Website: www.anacortesfamily.org

- **Interim Housing Program:** <https://anacortes-family.squarespace.com/services>

Info: This program is a sixty-day emergency shelter program includes services, education, and program requirements designed to springboard you and your family on a path to success and self-sufficiency. Services provided include housing search assistance, financial management education, intensive case management, employment readiness assistance, sobriety support, smoking cessation assistance, life skill education classes (rent readiness, parenting, budgeting, cooking, etc.), therapy for adults, children and families.

Eligibility: You must be a homeless single woman or family with children, have extremely low income (<30% area mean income), submit to a criminal background check, be currently clean and sober, agree to obtain employment or combine employment search with community volunteer activities, and be willing to fully engage in the program and adhere to program requirements. While the Center works with individuals with criminal histories, individuals with convictions including but not limited to murder, violent assault (1st or 2nd degree), sexual assault and/or registered sex offenders are ineligible for services.

- **Family Transition Center:** <https://anacortes-family.squarespace.com/transitional-housing>

Info: The transitional housing fills their units based upon availability in the program, barriers and progress made in the emergency shelter. It includes nine fully furnished apartments ready to house households ranging from single women to two parent households with up to four children. In addition to housing, it provides intensive services for individuals and families that need longer-term assistance (12-24 months). Residents will be required to work and pay 30% of their income as "rent". The vast majority of this

"rent" will be held. If a client graduates successfully, AFC will repay most of what they've paid as rent for a down-payment on a mortgage (income and credit permitting), or as rental payments with any additional funds to be used for emergencies.

- **Motel Vouchers:** Emergency housing may be provided via a motel voucher provided funding and motel space is available. Vouchers are issued for 1 to 2 nights at most. This is a last resort option. People with children are prioritized. Must have valid ID to rent a room.

Phone: 360-519-4069. After leaving your phone number between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., you will receive a call back within a couple of hours.

Salvation Army Vouchers

Info: May provide a motel voucher for two nights, once every six months for certain motels within Anacortes provided funding and motel space is available through the Salvation Army. Vouchers are issued Monday-Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. and from 1:15 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: 2001 R Avenue, Ste. 100, Anacortes

Phone: 360-293-6682

Website: https://anacortes.salvationarmy.org/anacortes_corps/family-services?random=6

Pioneer Transition House

Info: Transitional housing for individuals with a documented mental health and substance use disorder diagnosis. Housing is approved on a month-to-month basis without a maximum length of stay. Services include connecting clients to treatment, DSHS benefits and SSI applications, employment, probation completion, maintaining sobriety, and helping to obtain and maintain permanent/stable housing upon exiting the program.

Eligibility requirements:

- referral from community partner agency
- homeless at time of entry
- documented mental health and substance use disorder diagnosis
- exiting jail, detox centers and inpatient
- 18 yoa
- Past history of residency in Skagit County
- Service fee of 30% of income or 0% if unemployed
- Agree to sobriety monitoring
- Commitment to management plan

Must submit application which can be found at <https://pioneerhumanservices.org/housing/list?tid=6#0>

Location: 1011 Digby Rd, Mt Vernon, WA 98274

Phone: 360-336-0116

Email: not available

Family Promise of Skagit County

Info: Family Promise has three programs addressing housing needs:

- **Overnight Shelter** - Overnight shelter that rotates among churches, non-denominational groups, and local resources to help families with children and first-time mothers. Prior to COVID, each participating group provides evening activities and meals for 3-4 families (up to 14 persons). During COVID, we have expanded to serve 8 families.
- **Transitional House 2- Promise House** - Offers a step up for families who have met all requirements to graduate from our shelter model. These Families are out of immediate crisis and are focused on mid-range goals such as increasing livable wages, furthering their education, or paying off debts. They have begun to meet their employment and income goals but need additional time and rental history to successfully find long-term housing in Skagit County's tight housing market. This house offers group-

style living with a focus on open communication, community support, and future-focused goals. It also offers an expanding list of sustainable living classes such as advanced New Beginnings financial literacy courses, gardening, chicken care canning, etc.

- **Transitional House 3** - Offers a final step up for families who have met all the requirements of second-stage housing. These families are working on long-term goals of completing formalized training or education programs, are working on long-term housing goals like saving for a down payment of a house or have identified another long-term goal that requires more time for stability. Guests in this program have completed all financial courses, are self-motivated, and have taken large steps towards breaking cycles of poverty for not just themselves but their children. In this stage of the program Family Promise utilizes partnerships to secure low-income housing for families that could not otherwise pay current market rate costs for housing. Scholarships are offered to all guests at this stage who are willing to give back to the organization in some way.

In addition to shelter services, Family Promise recently started a Diversion and Prevention Program. By prevention, the program seeks to prevent the eligible family from becoming homeless by helping them prior to losing housing (*i.e.*, pending evictions, past due rent/utilities. etc. up to a certain dollar amount). Case management services are provided for that family. The diversion program helps those who have already lost housing but have not had to come to a shelter by suggesting alternative housing arrangements and providing case management.

Eligibility: Families with children, first-time mothers. Individuals with criminal convictions involving violence or sexual crimes against children are ineligible for shelter services.

Open: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Day Center Office)

Phone: 360-854-0743. Call to schedule an intake interview.

Email: communicationteam@familypromiseskagit.org

Website: <https://familypromiseskagit.weebly.com/>

Love I.N.C. (Love in the Name of Christ) “Homes with Hope”

Info: Using the Loving Hope Mentoring Program, Love I.N.C. provides transitional Housing Program (Homes with Hope) provides clients with housing for 6-12 months, for very little rent. As clients begin to “get on their feet” financially, they are surrounded by volunteers from local churches who help them with mentoring and life skills.

Location: undisclosed

Open: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Phone: 360-419-7061

Website: <https://www.skagitloveinc.org/>

Catholic Community Services - Martha’s Place – Opening Winter of 2023!

Info: Will provide 70 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for households experiencing homelessness and low-income households at risk of homelessness in Skagit County. Catholic Community Services of Western Washington will provide supportive services to the residents, with a focus on long-term stability.

Phone: Rita Jo Case at (425) 374-6350.

Teen Shelters

Oasis Teen Shelter

Info: Our YMCA Oasis Teen Shelter provides youth with a safe place to spend the night every day of the year. Other than being age 13-17, there are no strict eligibility requirements. Youth might need to stay overnight for a variety of reasons, such as family conflict, crisis, feeling unsafe at home, not having anywhere to go, or just needing a healthy break from family. No reason is not valid! We are first come first serve. All youth have access to a case manager who will work with them and their family to locate safe, stable, and permanent housing.

Skagit County ReEntry Guide (Sept. 2022)

Youth will be expected to participate in a behavioral program. If just looking for a meal, drop in between 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Location: 125 N 5th St, Mt Vernon, WA 98273. Entrance is at front of building.

Open: 2:30 P.M. - 7:45 A.M. (Monday through Friday. Must arrive by 9 P.M. for shelter); 12:30 P.M.-7:45 P.M. (Saturday and Sunday)

Phone: 360-419-9058 (must call ahead; nightly permission from a Legal Guardian required to stay overnight)

Email: shelter@skagitymca.org

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Center

Skagit Domestic Violence Shelter (connected to Skagit Community Action)

Info: confidential shelter program for victims of domestic violence

Phone: 360-416-7585

Clothing

* The following information is pulled in large part from the 2019 Skagit County Community Resource Guide.

Community Action of Skagit County

Info: Emergency help with clothing (among other things)

Location: 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Open: Mondays -Fridays, 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M., 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Phone: 360-416-7585

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/>

First Baptist Clothes Closet

Info: provides free clothes for those in need

Location: Anacortes Baptist Church, 2717 J Avenue, Anacortes

Open: Thursdays, 3:00 – 6:00 P.M. except for the 3rd Thursday of the month

Friendship House Clothing Bank

Info: assists low-income men and women get interview clothes

Location: 1008 S. Third Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Open: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Phone: 360-336-2418

Website: <https://www.skagitfriendshiphouse.org/>

Love I.N.C.

Info: provides women's work clothes (Let's Dress for Success)

Location:

Open: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Phone: 360-419-7061

Website: <https://www.skagitloveinc.org>

Food Banks

There are numerous food banks operating within Skagit County. Hours may change in the winter or due to COVID. Some food banks may not open at all during the winter. Check with the food banks listed below or Neighbors in Need at 360-982-2089 to verify hours of operation. **Some food banks require ID and proof of address. If you do not have these, contact the organization ahead of time to check for possible alternatives.** See above for information on getting or reinstating an ID card or driver's license.

Alger Food Bank

Info: food is pre-boxed during COVID

Location: 18731 Parkview Lane, Alger

Phone: (360) 724-5131

Email: algerfoodbank@wavecable.com

Open: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Anacortes 100 Food Bank (For Anacortes and La Conner residents only)

Info: food is pre-boxed during COVID

Location: 512 4th Street, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-6445

Email: belindadye53@gmail.com

Open: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m

Community Covenant Food Bank/Love Inc. of Skagit County

Location: Clear Lake

Phone: (360) 419-7061, Office hours Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call for appointment or referral.

Concrete Food Bank

Info: food is pre-boxed

Location: 45770 Main Street, Concrete

Phone: (360) 853-8505

Open: Apr – Sept: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 12 - 3 p.m.

Oct – Mar 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thurs, 12 - 3 p.m.

Hamilton Community Food Bank

Info: food is pre-boxed during COVID

Location: 951 Petit St., Hamilton

Phone: (360) 826-4090

Open: Tuesdays 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Helping Hands Food Bank

Info: Distribution will be a drive through model or distribution at Food Pavilion, Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1p.m. and 3 -6 p.m.

Location: 24703 Wicker Rd (gravel driveway), Sedro- Woolley. NOTE: Gates will not open early. **OR 9386 Fruitdale Rd., Sedro-Woolley**

Phone: (360) 856-2211

Open: Mondays & Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm

Thursdays 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fridays 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LaConner Sunrise Food Bank

Info: pre-boxed drive thru during COVID

Location: 601 South 2nd, La Conner

Phone: 360) 488-3878

Open: Mondays: 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Neighbors In Need

Info: curbside pickup

Location: 1615 South 2nd Street, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 420-0558

Open: Tuesdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesdays 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Salvation Army Food Bank

Info: pre-boxed drive thru pick-up during COVID

Location: 3001 R Drive, #100, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-6682 or (360) 488-2376

Open: Mondays & Wednesdays: 1:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank

Info: Photo ID required.

Location: 4001 St. Mary's Drive, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-9821

Open: Fridays: 10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Tri-Parish Food Bank

Info: pre-boxed drive thru pickup during COVID

Location: 935 Peterson Road, Burlington

Phone: (360) 757-0128

Open: Saturdays, 10:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Transitions Fidalgo Food Stands/ Share the Bounty

3 Locations in Anacortes: 2509 H Avenue

Anacortes Library on 10th Avenue by the front door

Harbor House, 719 Q Avenue

Open: 24/7 and restocked daily; self-serve.

Meal Sites

* The following information is pulled in part from the 2019 Skagit County Community Resource Guide.

Meal sites do more than just provide a nutritious meal. Many of them offer shelter, a variety of educational and recreational activities, services, and events in addition to regularly scheduled meals. Call in advance to learn about these special programs. Each location is different. Some meal sites serve special ethnic menus on various days. Please go to the following link for a comprehensive list of meal sites' location, operating hours, and prices: <https://svneighborsinneed.com/local-food-banks/>. They are listed below by town.

Phone: If you have any questions, call Neighbors in Need at 360-982-2089.

Website: <https://svneighborsinneed.org>

Anacortes:

- **The Kitchen Table** - Discontinued due to COVID at present time

Location: Anacortes First Baptist Church, 2717 J Ave, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-5300

Open: Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. except for 3rd Thursday of the month.

- **Dinner at the Brick**

Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 Ninth Street, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-3880

Open: Dinners on Sunday from 4:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

- **Spaghetti Dinner**

Location: United Methodist Church, 2201 H Avenue, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-0604

Open: Every 3rd Thursday, from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Website: <https://www.umcanacortes.com/service>

Burlington:

- **Tri-Parish Food Bank Hot Meal Program**

Location: 935 Peterson Road Burlington, WA 98233

Phone: (360) 757-0128

Open: Sept thru May, Sat 12-3pm June thru Aug, Wed 3-6pm

Mount Vernon:

- **Friendship House Café**

Location: 108 Snoqualmie St, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 873-8022

Open: Dinner to go: Daily at 5:30—6:30 p.m.

Also provides a Sack lunch to go: 11:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. daily, at Fir Street across from Carpet One and just east of Mr. T's restaurant

- **Reverie Community Meals** (New Life at the Well)

Location: 123 Evergreen Street, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 419-8227

Open: Dinners last three calendar days of the month, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Sedro-Woolley:

- **Open Door Community Kitchen**

Location: 1013 Polte Rd, Sedro-Woolley

Phone: (360) 856-6412

Open: Dinners last full week of the month (Mon-Fri) 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Concrete:

- **Concrete Community Center**

Location: 45821 Railroad Avenue, Concrete

Phone: (360) 416-1376

Open: Lunch, Monday-Friday at 11:45 a.m. -12:45 p.m.

Education

Skagit Valley College

Info: Skagit Valley College is a public community college in Mount Vernon, Washington. It serves students in Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties in northwest Washington state. SVC grants academic transfer pathways, professional/technical degrees, and certificates.

Location: 2405 East College Way, Mount Vernon

Website: www.skagit.edu

Programs:

- Basic Education for Adults (360)416-7640
 - <https://www.skagit.edu/academics/areas-of-study/basic-education-for-adults/>
- Counseling and Advising (360) 416-7654
 - <https://www.skagit.edu/student-resources/counseling-career-center/>
- Community Integration Program (360) 416-7849
 - <https://www.skagit.edu/admissions/community-integration-program/>
- WorkForce Grants (360) 416-7723
 - <https://www.skagit.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/workforce-grant-funding/>
- Enrollment Services (360) 416-7700
 - <https://www.skagit.edu/student-resources/enrollment-services/>

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Info: Instruction for non-native speakers of English. Classes emphasize beginning to advanced listening, speaking, reading, writing.

Locations:

- Community Action of Skagit County (360) 588-5735
330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon
- Evergreen Goodwill ESL..... (360) 848-6468
242 E College Way, Mount Vernon
- Skagit Valley College (ESL) (360) 416-7654
2405 East College Way, Mount Vernon

LaConner Regional Library

Info: The library provides an online resource called inLearning which allows you to access study materials and courses anytime on your phone, computer, or tablet, provided you are a library member. There are over 16,000 expert-led courses for professional development. Upon successful completion of a course, you earn a certificate. To use the library computers for this resource, you must be a library member.

Location: 119 N. 3rd Street, LaConner 98257

Hours: call for hours

Phone: 360-466-3352

Website: www.lclib.lib.wa.us

Evergreen Goodwill (formerly Goodwill Industries) - Skagit

Info: Provides Adult Basic Education (GED), English as Second Language, Customer service training, computer classes, Citizenship prep, case management services. Classes are offered 5 times a year with registration required (GED classes are open throughout the year).

Location: 242 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Hours: Call for hours

Phone: (360) 848-6468

Email: adam.sanders@evergreengoodwill.org

Website: <https://evergreengoodwill.org/job-training-and-education/training-center-locations/mount-vernon-job-training-and-education-center>

Plazas Comunitarias

Info: Adult-education courses in Spanish.

Location: LaVenture Middle School, 1200 LaVenture Road, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 428-6116

Community Action of Skagit County

Info: Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), High School Equivalency classes (formerly GED).

Location: 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 416-7585

East County Resource Center

Info: Adult Education

Location: 45770 Main Street, Concrete

Phone: (360) 416-1733

Email: ecrc@communityactionskagit.org

Open: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Vocational Training: see below Employment: Aids, Vocational Training and Entrepreneurial Resources

Employment: Legal Questions

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

Will my conviction impact my ability to work at some jobs?

To find out whether your offense will or may disqualify you from a certain type of job," you can use the search feature for collateral consequences found at: <https://niccc.csgjusticecenter.org/map/>.

There are certain crimes that would disqualify you for jobs that require unsupervised access to vulnerable adults, juveniles and children (e.g. nursing homes, in-home service providers, home care agencies, assisted living facilities and adult family houses). A list of these crimes is available at <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ffa/disqualifying-list-crimes-and-negative-actions>

What can I do to prepare for job hunting (while in custody or post-release)?

<https://www.wsp.wa.gov/crime/criminal-history/>

First, get a copy of your criminal record. The following are agencies from which you can access your record:

- **Washington State Patrol (WSP).** You can request your history by mail or online. There are differences in what you get and how much it costs. Whether by mail or online, if you want the document notarized, you will need to request this and pay an additional \$10.00. For instructions on how to get these records, go to <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/crime/criminal-history/>
 - **Online:** You can get information on Washington state convictions, including juvenile convictions, and on arrests that are less than one year old with dispositions pending. There is a \$11 fee and you will get an immediate response. You will need to establish an account to pay online -- either a billing account or a credit card account at <https://watch.wsp.wa.gov/WATCH/Account/Register>.

This option is preferred because employers can consider arrests under certain situations. To verify that the criminal history you receive from WSP is **your** criminal history, you will need to request a verification of your WATCH RAP sheet by fingerprint. Go to <https://watch.wsp.wa.gov/WATCH/Home/Forms> for instructions. There is no additional charge for the fingerprint.

- **By mail:** If you request by mail, you can **only** get information on Washington state convictions, including juvenile convictions, but not arrests. Send in a written Request for a Conviction Criminal History Record on the following form: <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Request-for-Conviction-Criminal-History.pdf>.

The cost for mail requests varies. It is \$32.00 if based upon your name and date of birth and \$58.00 if based on full set of fingerprints. You will also have to pay your local law enforcement agency to take the fingerprints (the cost for fingerprints varies between \$5 and \$15.) A list of local agencies can be found at <https://watch.wsp.wa.gov/WATCH/UserContent/FingerPrint/FingerprintingLocations.pdf>. It will take between one and two weeks to get the record whether based upon your name and date of birth or your fingerprints. Mail the completed form to Washington State Patrol, Identification and Background Check Section, PO Box 42633, Olympia, WA 98504-2633.

- **Washington Courts:** You (or someone in contact with you) can conduct a free search of your criminal history in Washington State court system here by clicking <https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/Clerk/dainstruct.htm>.

It is still recommended to still get a copy from WSP because this search gives less information.

- **Other Options:** For more options on how to access/obtain your criminal record, go here: <https://www.aclu-wa.org/docs/getting-and-reading-criminal-history-reports-washington>. Click on “download document”. This document sets forth several options including:
 - **FBI:** Cost \$18 for application and \$7-\$15 for fingerprints.
 - **Consumer Reporting Agency:** Cost \$50-\$70.
 - **LexisNexis or Hire Right Full File Disclosure:** Free if you make one request per year). For more information about this service, you can call (866) 312-8075.

Second, draft your resume that you can finalize after you are released. A resume must include the following:

- Your **contact information** (name, address, phone number, email address)
- **Employment history** (list your jobs by date starting with most recent; include location, dates employed, duties, skills, and achievements)
 - If you were employed while incarcerated, list “State of Washington” as your employer.
- **Education** (when and where you graduated/got your degree OR how long you worked toward a degree if you did not graduate/get your degree, and any certificates/awards/honors/accreditations, certifications)
- **Other qualifications** (e.g. languages you speak, computer knowledge, specialized skills).
- **Job Objective** (explain why you are a good fit for the specific job you are applying for).
- **References** (list of three or more contacts from prior jobs who can be a good reference for you)
 - Always contact a potential reference and ask if they would be willing to be a reference for you before you list them as a reference.
- **Other tips:**
 - Stick to one page per 10 years of work experience
 - Only include information for the job you are looking for when listing employment history and label it as “relevant experience.” If you have other job experience, put it under “other experiences”.
 - Only put your interests if they relate to the job.
 - Resume should be easy to read.

Optional: It may be helpful to attach a letter explaining your history (click [here](#) for a sample letter)

Third, get the following identification forms ready: your ID (e.g. birth certificate, driver's license, state ID card, social security card, military records or release/discharge from active duty form (DD-214)).

Fourth, practice answering interview questions and questions about your criminal history.

Background Checks

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

What types of questions can an employer ask me about my criminal history?

Under the Fair Chance Act, most employers cannot ask on a job application if you have been arrested or convicted. Employers can only ask about questions about criminal matters after they determine that you qualify for the job (after you submitted your application and passed the initial screening).

Unless employers have fewer than eight employees or for jobs for which you may be disqualified based on the type of crime committed, a potential employer cannot ask you about convictions that are 10+ years old or are not reasonably related to the duties of the applied job. Click [here](#) to see if your conviction will disqualify you for a particular job in Washington state.

If an employer asks about your arrests, they must ask:

- Whether the charges still pending;
- Whether the charges have been dismissed;
- Whether the arrest led to a conviction of a crime involving conduct that would negatively affect job performance; and
- Whether the arrest occurred within the last 10 years.

How should I answer questions on a job application about my criminal record?

- Consult with an employment specialist.
- Understand what the employer is asking. A question about your felony convictions could be very different from a question about all crimes.
- Answer as honestly and accurately as possible.
- If you check "yes" next to a question about criminal history, you can
 1. Write down "will discuss during interview";
 2. Write down type of crime if you feel the crime is not serious or related to the job; or
 3. Include a letter of explanation.

When should I disclose information that is not asked about?

When deciding to give more information than the employer is asking for, consider the following:

- The age and type of the conviction (the older and less serious the conviction is, the less important it is to tell the employer about it).
- If the conviction relates to the job, describe how the conviction relates to the job you are applying for.
- Whether the employer will conduct a background check (if the employer conducts a background check, they will find out about at least the last 7 years of convictions and arrests, so you will likely want to disclose them).

What do I say about vacated or sealed cases?

Sealed: If you were convicted as a juvenile and your court records were sealed, you do not need to disclose the conviction to the employer. An adult conviction must be successfully vacated to be sealed.

Vacated: If you have a conviction that has been vacated, you have the right to say you were never convicted of that crime. Vacated convictions can still appear in public records and are often reported on background checks, so you should consider telling the employer about the conviction and explain it was vacated.

Do I have the right to know if an employer is conducting a background check on me?

If the employer is using a third-party, such as a Consumer Reporting Agency (CRA) to perform a background check, you have the right to know under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Most employers use CRA. If an employer requests a background check from a CRA, they must get your written permissions to do so. The employer is required to notify you in writing that it may use the background check report to deny you employment. But, if the employer is looking at court/public records or interviewing people that know you, you do not have the right to know.

What is included in an employee background check?

A CRA report will contain adult and juvenile information, including arrests, from all states, including federal offenses. A report from the Washington State Patrol will only include state convictions, both adult and juvenile, and depending on if the request was online or by mail, may contain arrests less than one year old where the disposition is pending.

What kinds of information is CRA prevented from including in background check reports?

Under federal law, if you are applying for a job with an annual salary below \$75,000, CRAs are not allowed to report arrests more than seven years old that did not result in a conviction. In Washington state, if you are applying for a job with an annual salary under \$20,000, CRAs cannot report arrests or convictions that are more than seven years old. CRAs also cannot report juvenile convictions if you are 21 years old or older when the background check occurs.

Do I have a right to know if an employer denied me employment based on a background check?

The employer must give you the following information once they deny you the job:

- Notice of the action taken based on the information from the background report;
- Name, address, phone number of CRA that supplied the background report;
- Statement that the CRA did not make the decision to deny you a job and is unable to provide you of the specific reasons why the job was denied; and
- Notices of your right to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in the background report, and of your right to request an additional free copy of the report if requested from the CRA within 60 days of when you were denied the job.

What if the CRA background check report has incorrect information?

If the background check report has inaccuracies, let the employer know that you are contacting the CRA to correct the information. You should identify where the report is wrong and provide the correct information to the CRA, preferably in writing. If the CRA finds inaccuracies, they must change or delete them within 30 days.

If the background check was provided by the Washington State Patrol, use the Request for Modification of Record form at https://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Request_for_Modification_of_Record.pdf

What if the CRA or employer does not follow the law regarding a background check?

Contact an attorney or file a complaint of the violation to the Federal Trade Commission (agency that enforces the Fair Credit Reporting Act). Contact information for the FTC is:

- **Phone:** (877) 382-4357
- **By mail:** Consumer Response Center, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave NE Washington DC 20580
- **Online:** <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaint/>

Hiring and Employer's Decision

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

Can an employer deny me employment because of an arrest?

No. Being arrested does not prove you were committed of a crime. However, an employer can legally make an employment decision based on the conduct underlying the arrest if the conduct makes you unfit for the job.

Can an employer deny me employment based on poor credit?

Yes, but only if the information about your credit is substantially related to the job you are applying for. Because credit information must generally be provided by a third party, the employer must get your consent to look at your credit information. An employer must also provide you with a notice and opportunity to respond if the employer plans to deny you based on your credit.

What can I do if I am turned down from employment because of my criminal history?

If the employer did not follow the laws above, you may have grounds for a discrimination claim. You can the following for assistance:

- Contact an attorney
- Contact **ACLU of Washington's new Criminal Records Project** (<https://www.aclu-wa.org/secondchances>)

The Criminal Records Project provides direct legal services to people facing barriers to housing and employment based on criminal records. This project assists people with vacating and sealing convictions under Washington law and advises individuals about whether denials of housing and employment comply with existing state and federal law. This site contains basic information on criminal records issues and the ACLU's services as well as community education guides, including the ACLU guides to Criminal Records and Employment and Getting and Reading Criminal History Reports. Please use the online intake form for individuals seeking ACLU assistance at

<https://action.aclu.org/legal-intake/get-help-aclu-washington-criminal-records-project>.

- Contact the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission within 300 days of the violation at (800) 669-4000.
- Fill out a complaint form (<https://www.hum.wa.gov/file-complaint>) with the Washington State Human Rights Commission and mail it within six months of the violation to 711 South Capitol Way, Suite 402, PO Box 42490 Olympia WA 98504-2490.

Unemployment Benefits

*The following information is pulled from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

If I lose my job, how can I get unemployment benefits?

You must meet eligibility requirements. You must have worked at least 680 hours in a year in Washington, have lost your job through no fault of your own, and are actively looking for a new job. To find out how many hours of covered employment you worked, contact the Employment Security Department at (800) 318-6022.

To file an initial application for unemployment, the same phone number above or visit the Employment Security Department's website to apply online. You must create an account to apply: <https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>.

Your criminal record/incarceration will not affect ability to apply for unemployment benefits if you provide the following information to complete the application:

- SSN
- Name, birthdate, contact information (e.g., phone number, mailing address, email address)
- Highest level of education
- Names and mailing addresses of all employers within the last 18 months
- Dates you worked for all employers within the last 18 months
- If you get work through a union, the name and local number of the union
- If you were in the military within the last 18 months, your discharge information (DD-214 form)
- If you were a federal employee within the last 18 months, your Standard Form 8 (SF8)
- Your citizenship status or work authorization information; and
- The reason you became unemployed.

Where to look for Second Chance Employers

Evergreen Goodwill (formerly Goodwill Industries) - Skagit

Info: Offers those with criminal backgrounds pre-release services, basic skills development, employment readiness training, occupational skill training, and job placement assistance. Register online anytime for classes.

Location: 242 East College Way, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (360) 848-6468

Hours: Call for hours.

Email: adam.sanders@evergreeengoodwill.org

Website: <https://evergreengoodwill.org/job-training-and-education/training-center-locations/mount-vernon-job-training-and-education-center>

70 Million Jobs

Info: Employment website and employment agency made for people with criminal records. Helps with resume building, will send notifications of job opportunities near you, can apply for jobs directly from your account.

Website: <https://www.70millionjobs.com/page/how-it-works>

Jobs for Felons Hub

Info: Online research that provides local job listings, help guide, and legal representation.

Website: <https://www.felonyrecordhub.com/states/jobs-for-felons-in-washington/>

Defy Ventures

Info: Provides entrepreneurship training, employment preparation, character development, Shark Tank-style pitch competitions, startup incubation, and executive mentorship.

Contact: info@defyventures.org

Website: <https://www.defyventures.org/our-community/defy-washington>

Tradesman International

Info: Tradesmen International provides construction contractors and industrial companies with North America's best, safety-minded skilled craftsmen. Tradesmen International lays the foundation by identifying, hiring, and training the best people, improving working conditions and using its four Core Values (safety, honesty, customer responsiveness, and quality) to guide decisions

Website: https://tradesmen.jobs/?utm_campaign=tradesmeninternational.com&vs=1929&utm_medium=Other&utm_source=tradesmeninternational.comDE

Felons Get Hired: <https://www.felonsgethired.com/jobs-for-felons/>

Jobs That Hire Felons: <https://jobsthathirefelons.org/>. Scroll to bottom for list of felon friendly employers

CareerOneStop (U.S. Dept. of Labor): <https://www.careeronestop.org/ExOffender/default.aspx>

Employment Aids, Vocational Training and Entrepreneurial Resources

Worksource Skagit

Info: The statewide unemployment center that offers self-help programs, group programs/activities, workshops, one on one consultations, apprenticeship, and training programs.

Location: 2005 East College Way, Mount Vernon

Open: Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Phone: (360) 416-3600

Website:

<https://seeker.worksourcewa.com/microsite/content.aspx?appid=MGSWAOFFLOC&pagetype=simple&seo=officelocator>

And for veterans:

<https://seeker.worksourcewa.com/microsite/content.aspx?appid=MGSWAVET&pagetype=simple&seo=landingpage>

DSHS Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Info: If you have a disability, you may be eligible for re-training or job placement assistance here.

Location: 900 East College Way, Suite 120, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 429-3097

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

Info: Working cooperatively with the Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation [DVR], several Tribes provide services to American Indians with disabilities who are seeking employment. See the website below for which Tribes have programs. Locally, the Samish Vocation Rehabilitation Program serves Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties. Contact Donna Adamson, Director, at dadamson@samishtribe.nsn.us or (360) 726-3647.

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr/tribal-vocational-rehabilitation-programs>

Washington Vocational Services

Info: Career counseling, vocational rehab, and services for disabled persons.

Location: 503 E Fairhaven Ave, Burlington 98233

Phone: (360) 419-0910

Website: www.wvs.org

North Puget Sound Carpenters Training Center

Info: Information: Carpentry Apprenticeship Program [Cert]

Location: 401 East Hickox Road, Mount Vernon 98273

Phone: (360) 428-2933

Website: <http://www.ncia.com/~npsctc/>

Northwest Washington Pipe Trades Apprenticeship

Info: Plumber/Pipefitter Apprenticeship Program [Cert]

Location: 780 Chrysler Drive, Burlington 98233

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Phone: (425) 317-8345

Website: <http://www.UA26.org>

Northwest Hair Academy

Info: Cosmetology [Cert]

Location: 615 South 1st Street Mount Vernon 98273

Phone: (360) 336-6553

Website: <http://www.northwesthairacademy.com>

Hunger to Hope Job Training Program (Program of Friendship House)

Info: Free 12-week kitchen apprenticeship certification program. Application and interview required. Participation limited to 8 apprentices.

Phone: (360) 873-8022

OIC of Washington

Info: Services for low-income agricultural workers including job referral/placement, career planning, educational assessments, vocational training and work experience.

Location: 2005 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 416-3521 or (360) 416-3527

Washington Career Bridge

Info: Online search engine to explore careers, job trends, and education programs

Website: <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/>

Other Job Listing Employment Sites:

- **Employment Security Department:** <https://esd.wa.gov/find-an-employer#/>
- **Washington State Department of Labor & Industries** (apprenticeship opportunities): <https://www.lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/apprenticeship/become-an-apprentice>
- **Monster:** <https://www.monster.com/jobs/search?q=&where=skagit+county+washington&page=1>
- **Indeed:** www.indeed.com
- **Glassdoor:** www.glassdoor.com/
- **Go Skagit:** www.goskagit.com (Online job listings)

Temporary and Day Labor Agencies

- **LaborMAX Staffing**
Location: 241 Burlington Blvd. S, Burlington
Phone: 360-755-1281
Website: <https://www.labormax.net/>
- **Labor Ready**
Location: 2222 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon
Phone: (360) 424-3205
- **Command Center**
Location: 720 West Division St, Mount Vernon
Phone: (360) 336-9993
Website: www.commandonline.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Employment-Agency/Command-Center-Inc-Mount-Vernon-WA-199966116692337/>
- **Express Employment Professionals**
Location: 1806 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 336-1980

Website: <https://www.expresspros.com/mtvernon/>

- **Human Resources, Inc**

Location: 2124 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 424-7134

Website: <https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Human-Resources,-Inc--mt.-Vernon-Wa>

Family Law: Child Support Questions

*The following information is extracted from the 2018 Washington State Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

What is child support?

Child support is money that a non-custodial parent (a parent that the child does not live with most of the time) pays to the custodial parent (the parent the child lives with) to help provide for the needs of the child.

Who is a “parent” of a child?

A child support order can only be entered against a noncustodial parent if the legal relationship between the parent and child is established. It’s not enough for the parent and child to be biologically related. There are four ways that a person can be determined legally to be a parent of a child:

- **Birth mother.** A woman who has given birth to a child is the legal parent of the child.
- **The “Marital Presumption”.** A person is presumed to be a parent if he or she is married or in a domestic partnership with the mother of the child and the child is born during the marriage or domestic partnership or within 300 days after it is ended.
- **Acknowledgement of Paternity.** This is a legal document in which the biological mother and father state under oath that the father is the only possible biological father of the child. If the mother is married to another, then the Acknowledgement must be accompanied by the spouse’s Denial of Paternity which states that the spouse knows that he is not the biological father of the child.
- **Court Order.** A state, tribal or foreign court can also establish who the child’s parent is by court order.

How do I know what I have to pay in child support?

What you must pay will be set forth in a child support order from a court or the Division of Child Support (“DCS”). In most cases, the child support order states that the child support payment should be sent to the Washington State Support Registry (“WSSR”). WSSR then sends the payment to the custodial parent.

How does the child support process work if the legal relationship between the parents and the child is already established?

A Support Enforcement Officer (“SEO”) of DCS will gather information about the income of the parents and use it to calculate a proposed child support amount. That calculation is sent to the parties in a “Notice and Finding of Financial Responsibility.” If nobody objects to that notice, it becomes a legally enforceable child support order. If you do not agree with the amount of child support that has been calculated, you must object by contacting the SEO by telephone or in writing. A hearing will then be set before an Administrative Law Judge who will decide the final child support amount.

How is the amount of child support I owe determined?

Monthly child support amounts are based on both parties’ incomes and the number of children to be supported using the Washington State Child Support Schedule, which you can find at https://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/documents/WSCSS_Schedule_202052006.pdf.

While this schedule sets the basic child support, deviations up or down can occur if the noncustodial parent is obligated to support other children, their assets and debts, and limits on either parent's earning capacity, such as incarceration, disabilities, or incapacity.

What happens if I don't pay child support?

If you don't make your required child support payments, DCS can have your wages garnished, your driver's license revoked and/or take your property. If you are out of jail and fail to make your payments, DCS also can refer your case to the county prosecutor, which could result in jail time.

What happens to my child support obligations while I'm in prison?

Your monthly child support obligation doesn't stop if you are imprisoned. If you haven't sought to modify your obligation while in prison, you will have to pay the full amount upon release. You cannot modify it after your release.

Additionally, DCS may file a lien against your property or a credit report to secure debt. If you have assets or accounts, DCS may try to seize them or any money in your prison account.

What should I do if I am served with legal papers concerning child support?

Do not ignore them! It is very important that you open and read them as soon as possible. This will give you the most time to respond to whatever legal papers you receive. If you don't understand the documents, find someone who can assist you. If you do not respond, a "default order" giving the other party everything it asks for may be entered. The paperwork you receive will include your deadline to respond.

Instructions and forms for responding to a petition to modify child support order are available at <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/responding-to-a-petition-for-modification-of>

Instructions and forms for responding to a motion to adjust child support order are available at <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/responding-to-a-motion-for-adjustment-of-your>

Do I have a right to free legal help for my child support case?

No, you do not have a right to a free attorney to represent you in child support hearings. If you do not have an attorney, contact a family law facilitator at your local superior court. While they can't give you legal advice, they can help you fill out the required forms. Facilitators may charge a fee, but low-income individuals can request that the fee be deferred or waived. To find a court facilitator, visit http://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/?fa=court_dir.facils. If your case is in Skagit County, go to <https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/SuperiorCourt/familylaw.htm#B>

If my child support order was modified during my incarceration, what happens once I am released?

Read your support order. Sometimes when an order is modified because the noncustodial parent is in prison, the order will say that support obligations automatically go back to the old amount once you are release. Otherwise, you should expect that the custodial parent or DCS may start a modification action. If you are served with legal papers, be sure to read them and respond by the deadlines.

What happens if I can't find work after I am released?

Keep in touch with DCS. While your support obligation doesn't go away just because you aren't working, telling DCS that you are looking for work can help you avoid having your license suspended or your case referred to the prosecutor (and potential jail time).

Consider applying for DCS's Alternative Solutions Program, where a case worker will help you with finding a job, lowering your monthly payments and other matters. For more information about DCS's Alternative Solutions Program, visit <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/alternative-solutions>

You can email the program at AlternativeSolutions@dshs.wa.gov or call at 360-664-5028 or 1-800-604-1146.

Family Law: Custody, Visitation and Parental Rights Questions

*The following is information extracted from the 2018 Washington State Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

What does a court consider in deciding child custody and visitation cases?

Judges make decisions based on what is in the “best interests” of the child, considering the nature and stability of the child’s relationship with each parent; whether one parent has taken or can take on more parenting responsibility; agreements regarding custody; each parent’s ability to act as a parent; the needs and development of the child; and the child’s wishes.

How can my conviction record affect my custody and visitation?

Custody and visitation arrangements that allow a child to have a relationship with both parents are preferred, if that is in the child’s best interest. However, certain types of convictions, such as domestic violence, child abuse, abandonment, and certain sexual offenses, are viewed as particularly relevant in evaluating your parenting ability and the child’s best interest.

What can I do to help my custody and visitation rights?

One of the most important things you can do is make sure you stay actively involved in your child’s life. You can be involved through letters, visits, telephone calls and other forms of contact. Keep a written log of all your contacts so you have it as evidence. Also, attend (in person or by phone) all legal proceedings involving your child. Call and check in frequently with your child’s social worker.

What is a parenting plan?

A parenting plan sets out the time the child will spend with each parent, which parent will make big decisions about the child and how parents will work out disagreements. If you and the other parent are divorced, you will have a parenting plan determined by a court; if you weren’t married or are still married, you might not have one but can get one if you cannot agree on terms with the other parent. Once a judge signs the parenting plan, you must follow it, or the judge may find you in contempt. Information on filling out a parenting plan proposal is available at <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/parenting-plan-forms-online>.

Where can I find my parenting plan?

You can get a copy of your parenting plan from the court that entered it. If you do not know what court entered your parenting plan, go to <https://dw.courts.wa.gov/> to find your court and case number so that you can get a copy from the court.

What is a parenting plan modification?

To change a parenting plan, either parent can file a “parenting plan modification.” For a major change (such as who has primary custody), the filing parent must prove a substantial change in circumstances for the child or the custodial parent. For a minor change (such as a change in visitation schedule), the filing parent must prove a substantial change in circumstances for the child or either parent.

To make a major or minor modification, the other parent may serve you with what is called a “Petition to Change a Parenting Plan, Residential Schedule or Custody Order”. You have 20 days to respond to the Petition. If you do not respond on time, the court likely will give the other party the change they want. To respond, use the form available at

<https://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/documents/FL%20Modify%20602%20Response%20to%20Pt%20to%20Change%20Parenting%20Plan.pdf>.

Can I get or regain custody of my child when I am released?

When you are released, your parenting plan will still be in place with any modifications made during your incarceration. If it does not grant you custody or visitation, you can try to modify it.

If you and the other parent can agree on changes, you can submit the new version to the court for approval. If you cannot agree, you will need to file a petition for a parenting plan modification. Things like having stable employment and housing will help your chances of getting custody after you are released.

What is a non-parent custody petition?

A non-parent custody petition is a request by a non-parent to get custody of a child. If either parent objects, the person must prove that both parents are unfit or that living with either parent is a detriment to the child's growth and development. If the court agrees that your child should live with the non-parent, it may be hard to get your child back after you are released. For additional information on modifying parenting plans and other common custody questions see <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/issues/family-law/parenting-plans-residential-time>

What is a dependency action?

A dependency action is a case to decide if your child depends on the state for protection because he/she has been abandoned, abused, or neglected or has nobody to care for him/her. For more information on dependency actions, go to <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/child-protective-services-cps-and-dependency-actions?ref=quegB>.

Should I get an attorney to help with my child custody and visitation issues?

Yes, child custody issues are very complicated so you should try to find an attorney to help you.

Do I have a right to a free attorney?

You only have a right to a free public defender in dependency actions and cases involving termination of parental rights.

What if I cannot afford to hire a lawyer for other types of custody and visitation cases?

If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, try calling local bar associations to see if they have any free legal clinics. Or you may be able to obtain low-cost legal help by calling 1-888-201-1014 if you live outside of Washington State.

Family Resource Centers

DSHS Division of Child Support – Skagit County

Info: provides a plethora of services for parents and families

Open: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm

Location: 900 E College Way Suite 100 Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (877) 501-2233

Enrollment website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/enroll-child-support-services>

Brigid Collins Family Support Center

Info: provides parenting education, personalized coaching, or group support to families

Location: 917 S. 3rd Street, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Phone: (360) 428-6622

Email: contact@brigidcollins.org

Darrington Family Support and Resource Center

Info: provides parenting education, personalized coaching, or group support to families

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Location: 1075 Fir Street, Darrington WA 98241

Phone: (360) 436-0308

Skagit County Parent to Parent

Info: Provides emotional support and information for families of children with special health or developmental needs.

Location: 320 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (360) 416-7570 ext. 401

Website: <https://www.sparckids.org/resources/parenting/>

Financial Education

Clearpoint Credit Counseling

Info: national, nonprofit agency offering free credit counseling, budgeting help, bankruptcy counseling, and housing counseling.

Phone: (800)-750-2227

Website: <https://www.clearpoint.org/>

Financial Beginnings Washington

Info: Provides free, unbiased financial education to youth and adults in the Pacific Northwest to help them build and protect assets while increasing opportunities available to them, such as home ownership, higher education, and secure retirement. Downloadable materials are available for credit and debt education at

<https://finbegwa.org/download-materials/?topic=SAFE~Credit+and+Debt&learnerlevel=A>

Location: 530 Industry Drive Suite 240 Tukwila, WA 98188

Contact: Amy Zimmerman

Phone: (800) 406-1876 Ext. 204

Email: amy.zimmerman@finbegwa.org

Website: <https://finbegwa.org/>

Sedro-Woolley American Legion George Baldrige Post 43

Info: provides financial assistance to veterans

Location: 701 Murdock St, Sedro-Woolley

Phone: (360) 855-0520

Hours: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Financial Assistance/Government Benefits

*Some of the following information is extracted from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

The best way to find out what benefits you may be eligible for is to visit Washington Connection at www.washingtonconnection.org. It is an online tool that allows you to check your eligibility for Washington State program benefit programs. In general, your criminal record should not prevent you from accessing most government benefits. However, you may be ineligible for some programs (including TANF, Basic Food) if you have violated your probation or parole, or if you are convicted of a felony and are fleeing to another state to avoid punishment.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Benefits

Info: An individual released from incarceration may be eligible for Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits if they have worked or paid into Social Security enough years. An individual released from

incarceration may be eligible for Supplemental Security Income benefits if they are 65 or older, are blind, or have a disability and have little or no income and resources.

Additional info: By clicking on the title of these brochures, you can obtain a copy:

["What Prisoners need to know"](#)

["Entering the Community After Incarceration - How We Can Help"](#)

Location: 710 East College Way, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Phone: (866) 931-7108

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits.htm>

DSHS Community Service Office

Info: Offers cash assistance (in addition to other general services).

Location: 900 E. College Way, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Open: Call for hours

Phone: (877) 501-2233

Application: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/ESA/csd/documents/14_001.pdf. Before 3pm, complete your interview for cash or food (application/eligibility review/mid-certification review). If you do not have access to a computer, go to <https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/> to use their computer. You may complete an **online application** by [clicking here](#) or apply by contacting the Customer Service Contact Center 877-501-2233. To mail in your application, send to:

DSHS - CSD Customer Service Center
PO Box 11699
Tacoma, WA 98411-6699.

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/community-services-office>

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

Info: Provides temporary cash for families in need for up to 60 months. Some families participate in the WorkFirst Program. The WorkFirst Program helps participants find and keep jobs. To apply in-person, go to your local Community Service Office listed above. To apply online, please go to

<https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>

Eligibility: Washington state resident responsible for care of a child or are pregnant, plus income/resources requirements, citizenship, and immigration status requirements. If you are ineligible for TANF, you may still be eligible to receive aid from Washington State's Family Assistance (SFA) Program.

Phone: Please call your local Community Service Office

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/tanf-and-support-services>

Basic Food/SNAP

Info: Helps low-income people make ends meet by providing monthly food benefits

Eligibility: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=388-400-0040>

To apply online: <https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/basic-food>

ABD (Aged Blind Disabled)

Info: A state funded program that provides cash assistance and a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program to eligible low-income individuals who are age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability criteria based on an impairment(s) expected to last at least 12 consecutive months. Provides maximum monthly cash grant of \$197 for a single individual or \$248 for a married couple.

To apply online: <https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>

To apply in person: Go to your local Community Service Offices

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/aged-blind-or-disabled-abd-cash-assistance-program>

Diversion Cash Assistance

Info: Provides alternative assistance for families who have a short term need and do not wish to receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) assistance.

To apply in-person: go to your local Community Service Office listed above.

To apply online: <https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/>

Additional info:

- You are eligible for only one thirty-day period per year.
- The maximum benefit is \$1,250.
- You must repay a prorated portion of the grant if you go on TANF before one year
- You will not use any of your sixty-month lifetime limit for TANF benefits

Phone: Please call your local Community Service Office

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/diversion-cash-assistance-dca>

CEAP (Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program)

Info: A cash program available to families or pregnant women who face an emergency and do not have the money to meet their basic needs for up to 30 consecutive days, once a year. This includes families whose Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance has been terminated for Non-Compliance Sanction (NCS) and those who have already received 60 months of TANF and do not qualify for a Time Limit Extension.

To apply online: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/node/1918>

Unemployment Insurance

Info: Unemployment benefits are cash benefits you can receive while you are looking for a job. They are made available through taxes paid by your former employer while you were working. You cannot apply for unemployment benefits in Washington if you did not work in this state in the past 18 months. Benefits are not based on financial need.

To apply online: <https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>

To apply via phone: call (800) 318-6022

More info: Phone applications are accepted Tuesday through Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm

Rent/Utility Assistance

Rental Assistance Search Engine by City or Zip Code: <https://www.rentassistance.us/st/washington>

Community Action of Skagit County

• Energy Assistance

Info: Provides information on how qualifying, low-income households can apply for energy assistance from LIHEAP, Cascade Natural Gas, and Puget Sound Energy. If you have a Puget Sound Energy account, you may schedule an appointment online by visiting www.pse.com/help and clicking "Get Started".

Location: 160 Cascade Place, Burlington

Phone: (360) 428-1011

Open: First day of every month from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Email: energy@communityactionskagit.org

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/energy-assistance/>

• Rental Assistance

Phone: (360) 416-7588

Open: Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are unable to call during those hours, go to <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/eviction-prevention/> and click on "For Tenants" to provide information electronically. OR you can go to Skagit County Rental Assistance Program at <https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/HumanServices/eligibilitymain.htm>

Skagit County Rental Assistance Program

Info: The Skagit County Rental Assistance Program provides financial assistance for rent and utilities to income-eligible Skagit County renters and their landlords who have been impacted by COVID-19.

Website: <https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/HumanServices/eligibilitymain.htm>

Salvation Army - Anacortes Corps

Info: Eligible individuals can access Rental Assistance, Life Saving Prescriptions, Free Food, Emergency Housing, Utility Assistance, and Senior and Youth Programs

Location: 2001 R Avenue, Ste. 100, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 293-6682

Website: https://anacortes.salvationarmy.org/anacortes_corps/family-services?random=6

DSHS Emergency Services

Info: Help with rent or utility payments. Services available include Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs which is available to those receiving assistance through Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), State Family Assistance (SFA), or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) programs. This program offers assistance in addition to funds already being received.

Location: 900 East College Way, Suite 100, Mount Vernon

Phone: (877) 501-2233

Website: https://www.rentassistance.us/li/wa-washington_state_department_of_social_and_health_services_emergency_services_mt_vernon

Sedro-Woolley American Legion George Baldrige Post 43

Location: 701 Murdock St, Sedro-Woolley

Phone: (360) 855-0520

Hours: Monday - Friday from 2 p.m.- 9 pm (social lounge)

Friday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (coffee, financial and other assistance), dinners on Friday.

Housing: Questions to Consider When Seeking Housing

**The following information is extracted from the 2018 Washington Appleseed Reentry Guide, updated where necessary.

Your criminal record may create some barriers to your housing. Individuals who use illegal drugs or abuse alcohol are ineligible for federally assisted housing, as are people who were evicted from federally assisted housing for drug crimes in the past three years.

Private landlords may also have restrictions on who they accept, though their ability to discriminate is limited by the Fair Housing Act. Read on for more specific information about the Fair Housing Act and the types of rules landlords can make.

What documents or materials do I need to apply for permanent housing?

The specific materials you need to apply for housing are determined by the landlord where you are applying and will vary from application to application. However, here is a list of things that the landlord may ask you about:

- **“Personal information**, including your state driver license or ID card or your Social Security number. Information about getting your identification documents can be found in the Identification chapter of this Guide.
- **Rental history**, including whether you have ever been evicted in the past. They may wish to run a tenant background check.
- **Credit history**. They may also run a credit check.
- **Criminal history** (but remember that they cannot ban you simply for having gone to prison). They want to be sure that you will be a safe and responsible tenant.
- **Employment and income**. They may ask for your paystubs or bank statements to prove that you can afford the rent. Generally, housing is considered affordable if it is 30% or less of your income. For example, if you make \$1,200 a month, renting housing for \$360 a month would be considered affordable.
- **Your housing voucher or other documentation related to public housing**. You might have a housing voucher, or you might have a letter from the Housing Authority or another agency that says the agency will help pay if you can find suitable housing.

There may also be a fee associated with the credit and/or rental background check, and if you get the apartment, you will probably have to pay a deposit. Bear in mind that in most cases, every adult who will be living in the residence will be required to fill out the application. Remember that the landlord may **not** discriminate against you based on your race, color, religion, national origin, sex, family status (whether you have children who will be living with you) or disability.

How do I access my eviction record?

You can contact the county clerk’s office for a copy of your eviction record. While the record itself should be free, the clerk may charge you a small fee if they need to fax or mail the paperwork to you. Copies of eviction records are also available online for purchase from various clearinghouse companies with prices varying depending upon the source. In general, evictions will stay on your record for seven years.

Clerk of the Superior Court (for Skagit County Records)

Location: 205 West Kincaid, room 103, Mount Vernon 98273

Open: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (360) 416-1800

Email: supcrtclerk@co.skagit.wa.us

Website: Use the following website to search for records of courts in any county. Be certain to put in the correct county: <https://odysseyportal.courts.wa.gov/odyportal>

What is a potential landlord allowed to ask me about my criminal history?

Due to a law passed in 2017, landlords in Seattle may not require that you talk about your criminal history, may not ask about your criminal history, and may not reject your application for housing because of your adult criminal history unless the landlord thinks there is reason to believe that you will be a danger to other tenants or to the property. A landlord cannot do any of these things at all, for any reason, based on of your juvenile criminal history. When deciding whether to disclose something not asked about on the rental application, you should consider:

- The age and type of the conviction (the older and less serious the conviction is, the less important it is to tell the landlord about it)

- Whether the landlord will conduct a background check (if the landlord will conduct a background check, they will find out about at least the last 7 years of convictions and arrests, so you should disclose them).

Is it helpful to submit documentation to show I am rehabilitated since the conviction?

You can submit documents that you think will help explain your criminal record. Character references from employers, prior landlords, or other people who know you well can be very helpful if the landlord will accept them. Landlords are not required to accept such documents, but generally will do so.

Do sealed or vacated cases affect my housing application(s)?

If you have a conviction that has been *vacated*, you have the right to say that you were never convicted of that crime. The Washington State Patrol will not report convictions that have been vacated. But since vacated convictions can still show up in public records, they are often reported on background checks. If the landlord is likely to run a background check on you, you should consider telling the landlord about the conviction on your application and explaining that it was vacated."

"Unfortunately, sealed and vacated records sometimes appear in background checks, even though they are not supposed to. If you are denied housing because of an incorrect background check, you may be able to challenge it." See the section below entitled "If my background report has information that is inaccurate, what should I do?"

Be aware your housing application can be rejected for reasons outside your criminal history:

A landlord is generally free to set whatever eligibility conditions it wants, so long as those reasons are not discriminatory. A landlord may turn you down for poor credit history, having too little income, bad references from prior landlords, or a prior eviction lawsuit. A landlord may also choose not to allow pets or smoking inside the building.

Past drug addiction is considered a disability under fair housing laws, so a landlord cannot turn your rental application for this reason alone. Note, however, that you may be evicted for illegal drug activity in a property that you are renting.

Do I have a right to know if a landlord is doing a background check on me?

If the landlord is doing its own investigation, such as looking at court records or interviewing people that know you, then you do not have a right to know about it. But if a landlord uses a third-party, such as a Consumer Reporting Agency (CRA), to perform a background check on you, then you have the right to know about it under a law called the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

"Before a landlord looks up any information about you, it must inform you in writing:

- What types of information it will access about you
- What criteria may result in you being rejected
- If the landlord is planning to use a CRA, the name of the CRA, and that you are entitled to a free copy of the CRA report.

If a potential landlord runs a background check on you and are using a CRA, you are entitled to a free copy of the report.

If my background report has information that is inaccurate, what should I do?

You should tell the landlord what information is wrong, and let the landlord know that you are contacting the CRA to correct the information. To contact the CRA, use the information provided by the landlord. You should explain what part of the report is wrong, highlighting or otherwise marking that part of the report on a copy. You should also give the CRA the correct information, with document backup if possible. Once you have

requested that a CRA correct information from your background report, then, within 30 days, it must perform an investigation.

CRA's cannot report information about arrests or convictions that are more than 7 years old. CRA's also cannot report juvenile convictions if you are 21 years old at the time of the background check.

If the situation is not resolved after talking to the landlord and the CRA, you should contact CLEAR at 1-888-201-1014 to seek legal advice. Call Monday - Friday between 9:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

If the background report was provided by the Washington State Patrol, you should provide similar information to that agency, using its Request for Modification of Record form available at

https://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Request_for_Modification_of_Record.pdf

You are entitled to know if a potential landlord denies your housing application: If a landlord denies your application, it is required to inform you in writing and provide the reason that it has rejected you.

I believe a landlord is discriminating against me, what do I do?

If you believe that a landlord has denied your application solely because you have a previous criminal conviction you may file a complaint with the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) as a violation of the Fair Housing Act. Fair housing complaints can be filed with HUD by telephone (1-800-669-9777), mail, or via the Internet at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/online-complaint

Housing: Search Engines

Transitional Housing

- **Washington Information Network 211, Transitional Housing/Shelter:** https://www.transitionalhousing.org/state/washington#city_list

Permanent Housing

- **Anacortes Housing Authority:** <https://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-authority/Washington/Anacortes-Housing-Authority/WA010>
- **Housing Authority of Skagit County:** <https://www.skagitcountyha.org/>
- **HUD affordable Apartment Search:** <https://resources.hud.gov/#>
- **Apartment Finder:** <http://aptfinder.org>
- **Affordable Housing Online:** <https://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-search/Washington>
- **Skagit County Affordable Housing Online:** <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Affordable-Housing-September-2020.pdf>
- **HUD Home buying Program Online:** <https://www.hud.gov/states/washington/homeownership/buyingprgms>

Housing: Navigation/Support Programs

Community Action of Skagit County

Info: Community Action is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3), serving homeless and low-income families and individuals. Its programs include, among others housing, energy/utility assistance, food, clothing, shelter. For specific information on housing, go to its website below.

Location: 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/housing-resource-center/>

Public Housing Authority (PHA) Skagit County

Info: Public Housing Authorities operate federal housing programs such as the [housing choice \(section 8\) voucher](#) and the [public housing](#) programs. Also offers Ready to Rent classes that teach tenants how to be

good renters, what their rights are, and how to remove or work around barriers like evictions or criminal history.

Locations: There are locations in Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Wooley. For contract info, to their websites or to: <https://www.communityactionsskagit.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Affordable-Housing-September-2020.pdf>

- Anacortes: www.AnacortesHousing.com
- Burlington: www.SkagitCountyHA.org
- Mount Vernon: www.SkagitCountyHA.org
- Sedro-Wooley: www.SedroWooleyHA.org

Northwest Justice Project

Info: The Northwest Justice Project provides free legal assistance to address fundamental housing needs including housing. Specifically, it provides information in several languages on what you need to know before buying a house/apartment, including your rights as a home buyer, and information on mortgages and property taxes.

Website: <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/issues/housing/home-buyers-owners>

Northwest Regional Council

Info: Developed a list of housing options for the Elderly, Disabled and Low Income on the website below.

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/files/2019/04/Elderly-and-Disabled-Low-Income-Housing-Options.pdf>

Healthcare

For free and low-cost clinics that provide services at no charge/reduced rates, regardless of whether you have insurance coverage, look here: <https://www.wahealthcareaccessalliance.org/search-for-clinics/> You can search according to the type of healthcare that you are looking for. For example, medical, dental, physical therapy, pharmacy, etc. See also, <https://www.nwrcwa.org/files/2019/04/Dental-Resources-for-Srs-and-People-with-Disabilities.pdf>

For a list of healthcare referral services in Skagit County:

- Anacortes:
<https://www.skagitvalleydirectory.com/search?category=Health+Care+Referral+Services&location=Anacortes>
- Mount Vernon and Burlington:
<https://www.skagitvalleydirectory.com/search?category=Health+Care+Referral+Services&location=Mount+Vernon>
- Concrete and Sedro-Wooley:
<https://www.skagitvalleydirectory.com/search?category=Health+Care+Referral+Services&location=Concrete>

Healthcare: General Coverage

****To consider:**

- All health insurance coverage sold in Washington state must cover mental health care, chemical dependency treatment, women's health care services, and others. For a full list of services covered, go to <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/benefits-health-plans-must-cover-under-washington-state-law>
- DOC can help you apply for Medicaid while in prison (unless you are married or will gain custody of a child after release or if you receive income 138% above the federal poverty guideline). Talk to your Classification Counselor to see if you qualify.

- You can apply for free or low-cost coverage through Medicaid (called Apple Health in Washington) and CHIP any time, all year.

SHIBA (State Health Insurance Benefit Advisors)

Info: Provides free information about health care coverage and access for seniors. There are two locations for Skagit County:

- **Location:** 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor, WA
Phone: 800-562-6900
Website: <https://www.skagitvalleydirectory.com//oak-harbor-wa/health-care-referral-services>
- **Location:** Edmonds Waterfront Center, 220 Railroad Ave., Edmonds WA 98020
Phone: (360) 826-8828
Email: shibasnohomish@gmail.com

Washington Prescription Drug Program (WPDP)

Info: A prescription drug discount program open to Washington State residents who do not have prescription drug insurance or coverage. No eligibility requirements or fees for a WPDP membership. There are no age or income restrictions. Contact SHIBA for more information.

Website: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/prescription-assistance/alternate-help-prescriptions>

Medicaid/Apple Health

Info: Helps people with low income and/or are aged, blind or disabled. You may qualify for Medicaid/Apple Health if your income is 138% below the federal poverty level. There are no monthly premiums except for children from higher-income families. For types of service coverage, go here: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/covered-services>

- **If you have Medicaid coverage before you entered prison**
 - And you entered prison after July 5, 2017: your coverage will be suspended during Incarceration and then restored once you are released
 - And you entered prison before July 5, 2017: your coverage is terminated, but you might be able to apply for Medicaid while in prison, have the coverage “suspended,” and then have the full coverage restored upon release.
- **How to apply:**
 - **Online:** <https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/apply-or-renew-coverage> or go to www.wahealthplanfinder.org
 - **Paper Application:** www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/18-001P.pdf
 - For assistance: call 1-855-923-4633
 - **Talk to a navigator** (trained certified representative who can help you apply): www.wahbexchange.org/partners/navigators/

Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Info: CHIP is an insurance program that provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid but not enough to buy private insurance. In some states, CHIP covers pregnant women.

Website: <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/childrens-health-insurance-program>

Medicare

Info: Helps people who are either 65 years and older or are disabled and receive SSDI or have end stage renal failure. This is free to anyone over the age of 65 if you have worked and paid taxes to Medicare for at least 40 quarters (10 years). If you turn 65 and qualify for Medicare while incarcerated, you should actively enroll in

Medicare Parts A and B during your Initial Enrollment Period (which includes the three months before, the month of, and the three months following your 65th birthday). You will not be eligible for automatic enrollment while you are incarcerated.

- **How to apply for Medicare:** To enroll in Part A and Part B, send a signed and dated letter to the Social Security Administration (SSA) that includes your name, Social Security number, clear statement that you want to enroll, and the date coverage should be effective. Be sure to keep a copy of the letter that you send.
- **How Medicare Coverage works while you are incarcerated**
 - It is usually best to keep Medicare Part A (hospital coverage) and Part B (medical (i.e., doctors) coverage) while you are incarcerated. Although Medicare will not cover your care while you are incarcerated, keeping it will ensure that you avoid [late enrollment penalties and gaps in coverage](#) when you are released.
 - To keep your Part B coverage, you will need to continue to pay the Part B premium (\$170.10 in 2022) each month. You will need to set up a direct payment to Medicare by calling 1-800-MEDICARE within 30 days of your conviction.
 - Note that if you are under 65 and qualify for Medicare due to disability, you must reinstate your SSDI to resume Medicare coverage upon your release.
 - For additional information, go to <https://www.medicareinteractive.org/get-answers/medicare-health-coverage-options/medicare-and-incarceration/medicare-coverage-during-incarceration>
- **Need financial assistance?** If you cannot afford to continue paying the Part B premium during your incarceration:
 1. You should actively withdraw from Part B instead of being disenrolled to avoid owing premiums to SSA. If you do nothing, SSA will continue to bill you for Part B and disenroll you after you fail to pay your premiums. When you re-enroll in Part B upon release, SSA will deduct any unpaid premiums from your Social Security benefits.
 2. See whether you qualify for a [Medicare Savings Program \(MSP\)](#). MSPs pay your Part B premiums, help you enroll in Medicare outside typical enrollment periods, and waive premium penalties.
 3. In Washington, you can apply for an MSP while you are incarcerated. If you do qualify for an MSP, aim to enroll into the MSP in the two months before your release. Typically, you should receive a decision within 45 days of filing an application. If your state does not allow you to apply for an MSP while you are incarcerated, apply as soon as you are released. Be sure to apply for an MSP in the state you will reside in after release. If you had an MSP before your incarceration, it would stop once you are taken into custody. You will need to re-apply for benefits to start upon your release.

Qualified Health Plan (private insurance)

Info: If you do not receive health insurance through your employer and you do not qualify for Medicaid/Apple Health, you will need to buy private insurance, also known as a qualified health plan (QHP). **You cannot apply if you are in jail or prison.** Applying for health insurance has an enrollment period (typically from beginning of November to mid-December). You may qualify for a [Special Enrollment Period](#) to enroll in a Marketplace plan if you experience certain types of life changes, like losing health coverage, getting married, or having a baby. Covers Essential Health Benefits. Does not cover adult dental/vision/hearing care nor certain long-term care.

- **Need financial assistance?** You can qualify for help paying for a QHP if your household gross income is between 100% – 400% of the federal poverty level or you are lawfully present immigrant whose income is at or below 400% of the federal poverty level, you file taxes, you are married and file taxes jointly. For more information, go to <https://www.healthcare.gov/quick-guide/>
- **How to apply**
 - **Online:** <https://www.wahealthplanfinder.org/us/en/get-coverage.html>
 - **Paper application:** call your local DSHS

- **Phone:** 1-855-923-4633 (Customer support)

Healthcare: General Medical Clinics

Migrant Health Promotores Program

Info: Medical services are offered.

Location: 125 N. 18th St., Suite A, Mount Vernon

Phone: 360-542-8898

Sea Mar Community Health Centers - Skagit County

Info: Please go to their website for an extensive list of services provided by each location. Services may include medical, dental, behavioral, preventive, and pharmaceutical services. Sea Mar provides sliding fee scale discounts for eligible patients, dependent on household size and annual income. To apply for sliding fee scale discounts, please bring proof of your annual household income to your visit. Some of the Sea Mar locations are set forth below.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org/services-skagit.html>

SEA MAR HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Info: Services offered include dental, drug dependency/detox, homeless, medical, and mental and behavioral counseling.

Location: 1010 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 542-8899

Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org>

SEA MAR MOUNT VERNON MEDICAL & DENTAL

Info: Services offered are medical and dental services.

Location: 1400 N La Venture Road, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 428-4075

Hours: Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org/skagit-medical-mountvernon.html>

SEA MAR SKAGIT VALLEY WOMEN'S CLINIC

Info: Services offered are medical and women's services and pregnancy

Location: 125 N. 18th St. Suite A, Mount Vernon, Skagit County, 98273

Phone: (360) 588-5570

Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sea Mar -Concrete

Info: Services offered are medical, mental and behavioral counseling, pediatric, pharmacy, sexually transmitted disease, women's services and pregnancy.

Location: 7438 South D Avenue, Concrete

Phone: (360) 853-8183

Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Swinomish Medical Clinic

Info: Provides medical services to Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

Location: 17400 Reservation Road, LaConner

Phone: (360) 466-3167

Skagit County ReEntry Guide (Sept. 2022)

Hours: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Website: <https://swinomish-nsn.gov/resources/health-wellness/medical-clinic.aspx>

Northwest Regional Council- Care Coordination

Info: Provides a set of services to support you if you have substance use or mental health disorders and have trouble navigating the services you need on your path to recovery. There is no cost to you. You must request the services of a coordinator and have a way for the coordinator to contact you.

Email: nwrcCommunityReferral@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/recovery-care-coordination/>

Healthcare: Dental Clinics/Programs

Sea Mar Community Health Centers - Skagit County

Info: Please go to their website for an extensive list of services provided by each location. Some locations are listed above under Healthcare: Medical. Provide general dental care and some locations provide emergency dental care. Please go to their website for an extensive list of services provided by each location. Sea Mar provides sliding fee scale discounts for eligible patients, dependent on household size and annual income. To apply for sliding fee scale discounts, please bring proof of your annual household income to your visit.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org/services-skagit.html>

Swinomish Dental Clinic

Info: Provides services to eligible patients in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of oral disease. Offerings include emergency care, preventative services, oral surgery (extractions), and restorative procedures (fillings, crowns and bridges), root canal procedures, and prosthetics (dentures)

Location: 17395 Reservation Rd, La Conner

Phone: (360) 466-3900

Hours: Monday-Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Website: <https://swinomish-nsn.gov/resources/health-wellness/dental.aspx>

Medical Teams International

Info: Mobile dental vans provide urgent dental care during Covid-19 pandemic.

Phone: (206) 708-3232

Website:

<https://medicalteams.org/how-we-heal/mobile-dental-program/emergency-dental-clinics/>

Veterans Dental Van Program

Info: Provides mobile dental services for low-income veterans. Call for details.

Phone: (360) 416-7585.

Healthcare: Vision Programs

Medicaid Options: The following list is taken from the https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/optical_providers_adult_medicaid.pdf

- **Island Optometry Clinic**, 2419 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes. Phone: (360) 293-2127
- **Mount Vernon Vision Source**, 1616 N. 18th St., #104, Mount Vernon. Phone: (360) 424-4181
- **Sedro-Woolley Vision Center**, 823 Murdock St., Sedro-Wooley. Phone: (360) 855-1251
- **For other locations**, go to the above website.

Vision USA

Info: Providing Free Eye Exams to Low-Income Uninsured Americans across the U.S. If you need an eye exam and do not have insurance and cannot afford one, work with your social worker, case worker, charitable organization or agency to submit an application on your behalf for VISION USA services. You can find a link to an application on the website, along with qualifications to obtain an appointment.

Website: <https://eyes.org/patients-and-public/vision-wa>

New Eyes for the Needy

Info: Purchases new prescription eyeglasses through a voucher program for low-income children and adults in the United States who cannot afford glasses on their own. To apply, please click the link below.

Location: 549 Millburn Avenue Short Hills, NJ 07078

Phone: (973) 376-4903

Website: <https://new-eyes.org/application>

Eyecare America

Info: Offers two programs providing eye exams. It does not provide eyeglasses. However, they do provide a link for resources for eyeglasses at <https://www.aao.org/eyecare-america/resources/eye-glasses>

- **The Seniors Program** connects eligible seniors 65 and older with local volunteer ophthalmologists who provide a medical eye exam often at no out-of-pocket cost, and up to one year of follow-up care for any condition diagnosed during the initial exam, for the physician services.
- **The Glaucoma Program** provides a glaucoma eye exam at no cost to those who are eligible and uninsured. Those who are eligible, and insured are billed normal office procedure, and responsible for any co-payments. (This is an awareness program to provide a baseline glaucoma eye exam to those who may not be aware they are at increased risk).
- Both programs require that you be an American citizen or a legal resident.

Phone: (415) 561-8500

Website: <https://www.aao.org/eyecare-america/read-more>

Healthcare: Mental and Behavioral Programs

Helplines (Source: <https://skagitcounty.net/Departments/Home/press/091521.htm>):

- If you are in crisis or are experiencing difficult or suicidal thoughts, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273 TALK (8255). Uncomfortable talking on the phone? No problem. You can also text NAMI to 741-741 to be connected to a free, trained crisis counselor on the Crisis Text Line.
- Crisis line 24-hour hotline: 800-584-3578 (Island, Skagit, Snohomish & Whatcom Counties)
- Veteran Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255 press 1, text 838255, or chat online
- LGBTQ+ Suicide Hotline (Trevor Project): 866-488-7386 or Text START to 678-678
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233

Other helplines:

- Trans Lifeline: (877) 565-8860.
- Addiction recovery: (866) 789-1511.
- Treatment referral: (877) 726-4727.
- **Volunteers of America Western Washington:** If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis, please call 1-800-584-3578 or visit www.imhurting.org to chat with someone 24/7.
- **WA Listens:** Call 1-833-681-0211 for nonclinical support for people experiencing elevated stress due to COVID-19. You can call, text, message, or video call with a crisis counselor who can connect you with resources in your area.
- **How Right Now:** Resources to help you no matter how you're feeling.
- **Mental Health Treatment Access Line** (first time appointments): 1-888-693-7200

- **SkagitHelps.org:** Resources to help with housing and basic needs, drug or alcohol use, depression or anxiety, suicide or self-harm, or just finding someone to talk to.

* Some of the following information is extracted from the 2019 Skagit County Community Resource Guide.

Mental and Behavioral Health Services Locator

Info: a confidential and anonymous source of information for persons seeking treatment facilities across the United States for substance use/addiction and mental health problems.

Website: <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>

Northwest Regional Council- Care Coordination

Info: Provides a set of services to support you if you have substance use or mental health disorders and have trouble navigating the services you need on your path to recovery. There is no cost to you. You must request the services of a coordinator and have a way for the coordinator to contact you.

Email: nwrcCommunityReferral@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/recovery-care-coordination/>

Behavioral Health Ombuds Program

Info: Advocates for anyone applying for or receiving publicly funded behavioral health service in Skagit, Whatcom, Snohomish, Island, and San Juan counties.

Phone: 1-888-336-6164 or 360-416-7004

Catholic Community Services NW

Info: Mental health counseling for children and youth.

Location: 614 Peterson Road, Burlington

Phone: (360) 856-3054

Compass Health

Info: Mental health counseling and psychiatric services for adults and children.

Location: 1100 S. 2d St., Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 419-3500 or (360) 419-3505

- For persons with Washington Apple Health.....1 (888) 693-7200
- For persons with other insurance or with questions (425) 349-8200
- **Crisis Prevention & Intervention Teams**(360) 419-3640
Crisis intervention and prevention for mental health and chemical dependency situations.

Compass Health- Skagit Wise Office

Info: Provides children’s intensive outpatient counseling. No walk-ins. Call the Access Line at (844) 822-7609 for more information.

Location: 120 E. Fir Street, Ste. 102 Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 419-3555 or (360) 419-3554

Sea Mar CHC - Mount Vernon Behavioral Health Center

Info: Assessments, medication assessments, family/group therapy.

Location: 1010 East College Way, Suite 100, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 542-8920

Sea Mar -Concrete

Info: Services offered are mental and behavioral counseling.

Location: 7438 South D Avenue, Concrete

Phone: (360) 853-8183

Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SEA MAR HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Info: Services offered include drug dependency/detox.

Location: 1010 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 542-8899

Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org>

Skagit Valley REACH Center

Info: Employment support, self-help classes, recovery groups, computer access, social activities.

Location: 1413 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 873-8635

Sunrise Behavioral Health Services

Info: Recovery-oriented services for those living with mental illness.

Location: 2500 East College Way, Unit 100, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 336-3762

Hours: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunrise Behavioral Health Services

Info: Outpatient mental health and dual disorder counseling and psychiatric services for adults.

Location: 10212 Collins Rd, Sedro-Woolley

Phone: (360) 899-4800

Hours: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Healthcare: Addiction/Substance Use Programs

Northwest Regional Council - Care Coordination

Info: Provides a set of services to support you if you have substance use or mental health disorders and have trouble navigating the services you need on your path to recovery. There is no cost to you. You must request the services of a coordinator and have a way for the coordinator to contact you.

Email: nwrcCommunityReferral@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/recovery-care-coordination/>

Sea Mar CHC - Mount Vernon Behavioral Health Center

Info: Services offered are drug dependency and detox.

Location: 1010 East College Way, Suite 100, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 542-8920

SEA MAR MOUNT VERNON MEDICAL & DENTAL

Info: Services offered are drug dependency and detox.

Location: 1400 N La Venture Road, Mount Vernon

Phone: (360) 428-4075

Hours: Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Website: <https://www.seamar.org/skagit-medical-mountvernon.html>

SEA MAR HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Info: Services offered are drug dependency and detox.

Skagit County ReEntry Guide (Sept. 2022)

Location: 1010 E College Way, Mount Vernon
Phone: (360) 542-8899
Hours: Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Didgʷálič Wellness Center

Info: Services offered include Substance Use Disorder Counseling, Gambling Counseling, Medication assisted therapies (Suboxone, Vivitrol, Methadone), DUI/Deferred Prosecution, client support services, transportation, onsite child watch among others. Open to all community members, not only tribal members. Medicaid and Private Insurance accepted.

Location: 8212 S. March Point Road, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 588-2800

Hours: Monday-Friday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Email: info@didgwalic.com

Website: <https://www.didgwalic.com/about.htm>

Swinomish Alcohol Program

Info: Provides Native Americans with assessment, individual therapy, outpatient group sessions, DUI/Deferred Prosecutions, inpatient referral service, youth education treatment services, Medication assisted treatment (Suboxone)

Location: Swinomish Social Services Building, 17334 Reservation Road, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 466-1024 (call for appointment)

Hours: Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Website: <https://swinomish-nsn.gov/resources/health-wellness/wellness-program.aspx>

Pioneer Center North

Info: Pioneer Center North (PCN) is a voluntary treatment facility that provides residential treatment for people who are struggling with substance use disorders and chronic behavioral health issues. An interdisciplinary team of substance abuse counselors, case managers, nurses and other specialists coordinate a comprehensive range of services to meet this population's unique needs. The average resident receives 30 to 50 hours of programming a week. Evaluations/referrals and applications are pre-requisites. Program accepts individuals who are 18 years and older who meet the criteria for intensive inpatient services or long-term residential treatment. The following payment methods are accepted: Medicaid, Washington state Apple Health, Fee for Service (Native American population), CJTA funding and private pay. Private insurance is not accepted. **To start the application process**, please fill out the Pioneer Center North [application](#) and either fax or mail it back to us.

Location: 1960 Thompson Drive, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Phone: (360) 856-3186

Website: <https://pioneerhumanservices.org/treatment/centers#0>

Skagit Community Detox

Info: The Skagit Community Detox center is a 16-bed sub-acute detoxification program that ensures safe withdrawal from alcohol and drugs, provides substance use disorder assessment referrals, and assists clients with arranging aftercare. The Center serves North Sound region adult residents for detox and provides services for those in crisis due to their substance abuse disorders. It offers a 7-day Suboxone Tapering Program for opioid addiction. Individuals can self-refer if in crisis.

Location: 201 Lila Lane, Burlington 98233

Phone: (360) 757-7738

Hours: 24/7 for most services.

Website: <https://pioneerhumanservices.org/treatment/centers#0>

Oxford Houses

Info: Oxford Houses are drug- and alcohol-free residences that support people in their recoveries. Click [here](#) for a directory of Oxford Houses in Washington State. To learn about the application process and requirements, go to <http://wa.oxfordhouse.us/docs/reentry.pdf>. Dedicated volunteers can help you in this process.

Locations:

Burlington: Men

Oxford House Skagit Valley

201 Sharon Ave., Burlington
(360) 982-2420

Mount Vernon: Men

Oxford House Bill Wyze

819 North 18th Street, Mount Vernon 98273-3045
(360) 755-3472

Oxford House River Side Hill: Women

214 East Spruce Street, Mount Vernon 98273-2919
(360) 873-8584

Oxford House Stark: Men

1203 East Section Street, Mount Vernon 98274-5020
(360) 899-4996

Oxford House Sandalwood Court: Men

2017 Sandalwood Court, Mount Vernon 98273-2348
(360) 982-2544

Oxford House Pullyaysee: Women

1121 Hopi Ln., Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 588-4917

Sedro-Woolley

Oxford House Sedro-Woolley: Men

417 Warner St., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284-1651
(360) 755-3271

Other resources:

- **Washington Recovery Helpline:** Call 1-888-789-1511 24/7 for help with substance use, problem gambling, and mental health.
- **Learn About Treatment:** Find help for yourself or a loved one for substance abuse.
- **SkagitHelps.org:** Resources to help with housing and basic needs, drug or alcohol use, depression or anxiety, suicide or self-harm, or just finding someone to talk to.
- **SkagitRising.org:** Education about and resources for substance use disorders, particularly opioid use disorder.

Needle Exchanges

Skagit County Mobile Syringe Exchange Program: A 1:1 syringe exchange project focused on risk reduction for adult IV drug users. Mobile bus also offers safe disposal containers, equipment, substance use disorder counseling and referrals.

Phone: 360-416-1500 for information, or see the service schedule below:

Skagit County Mobile Syringe Exchange Schedule	
Mount Vernon	Tuesday: 9am-12pm · Coastal Farm & Ranch, 2021 Market Street Thursday: 2-4pm · Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Street
Sedro-Woolley	Tuesday: 1-4pm · United General Hospital, 2000 Hospital Drive Thursday: 9-11am · Senior Center, 715 Pacific Avenue
Burlington	Thursday: 12-1:30pm · Tierra Nueva, 701 E Fairhaven Avenue
Concrete	1st and 3rd Monday: 1-3pm · Senior Center, 45821 Railroad Avenue
Anacortes	3rd Monday: 10am-11:30am · Salvation Army, 3001 R Avenue
Marblemount	1st Monday · Call Randall for time and site – 360-826-2661

Support Groups

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Info: The primary service provided by Narcotics Anonymous is the NA group meeting. Each group runs itself based on principles common to the entire organization. The group atmosphere provides help from peers and offers an ongoing support network for addicts who wish to pursue and maintain a drug-free lifestyle. NA's approach makes no distinction between drugs including alcohol. Membership is free.

Location: Due to the comprehensive list of locations, please go to the link below to search for a NA group near you.

Phone: (360) 647-3234

Website: <https://www.na.org/meetingsearch/> or <https://nwsrna.org>

Alcoholics Anonymous

Info: Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

Location: Please go to the link below to access the locations of AA group meetings in Skagit County.

Website: <https://alcoholicsanonymous.com/aa-meetings/washington/>

Online AA meeting search engine: <https://aa-intergroup.org>

Shower Trailers (toiletries and towels provided)

Anacortes Salvation Army

Location: 520 O Ave, Anacortes

Open: Thursdays from **4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

Concrete Community Center

Location: 45821 Railroad Ave, Concrete

Open: Tuesdays from **10 a.m. to 2p.m.**

Mount Vernon Senior Center

Location: 1401 Cleveland Ave

Open: **Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

Pet Care

The NOAH Center

Info: Has a low income spay/neuter clinic and may provide other health services for your pet

Location: 31300 Brandstrom Rd, Stanwood, WA 98292

Phone: [\(360\) 629-7055](tel:3606297055)

Website: <http://thenoahcenter.org>

Email:

Open: Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Skagit Humane Society

Info: Provides Spay/Neuter services for low-income individuals by appointment.

Location: 18841 Kelleher Rd., Burlington, WA 98233

Phone: [360-757-0445](tel:3607570445)

Email: info@skagithumane.org

Affordable Pet Care

Info: Provides vaccines and other health-related services for your pet at a discount for low-income individuals as well as payment plans.

Location: 7207 265th Street NW, Suite 104, Stanwood, WA

Phone: [\(360\) 629-8387](tel:3606298387)

Website: <https://apcstandwood.com>

Email: apcstanwood@gmail.com

Open: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. -5:30 p.m.; Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m

Transportation

Skagit Transit – Reduced Bus Fare Permit

Info: This permit can be temporary or permanent, and entitles qualified Paratransit customers, people 65 years of age and older, people with a Medicare card, and people with a disability to reduced fares on all Skagit Transit Fixed Route services. You may apply online, in person, or call (360) 757-4433 or toll-free at (877) 584-7528 to have an application mailed to you. Click [here](#) to apply for the permit online or apply in person at either of the locations below. You can click [here](#) to review the Medical Eligibility requirements. Once you have filled out the application, you must bring it to one of the two locations below. Before going, review the application carefully to learn what type of proof you must show to obtain the card.

You must show a valid Reduced Fare Permit when paying a discounted fare.

Locations:

- Skagit Transit Station, 105 East Kincaid, Mount Vernon. Hours: Monday-Friday from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. (closed from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch)
- The Skagit Transit Business Office, 600 County Shop Lane, Burlington. Hours: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 360-757-8801

Website: <https://www.skagittransit.org/rider-info/fares/reduced-fares/>

Skagit Transit - Regional Reduced Fare Permit

Info: This permit can be temporary or permanent, and entitles people 65 years of age and older, people with a Medicare Card and people with a disability to reduced fares throughout the Puget Sound Region. This Region includes Clallam Transit, Community Transit, Everett Transit, Intercity Transit, Jefferson Transit, King County Metro Transit, King County Water Taxi, Kitsap Transit, Mason Transit, Pierce County Ferries, Pierce Transit, Skagit Transit, Sound Transit, Washington State Ferries, and Whatcom Transportation Authority. You may apply online, in person, or call (360) 757-4433 or toll-free at (877) 584-7528 to have an application mailed to you. Click [here](#) to apply for the permit online or apply in person at either of the locations below. You can click [here](#) to review the Medical Eligibility requirements. Once you have filled out the application, you must bring it to one of the two locations below. Before going, review the application carefully to learn what type of proof you must show to obtain the card.

You must show a valid Regional Reduced Fare Permit (RRFP) when paying a discounted fare.

Locations:

- Skagit Transit Station, 105 East Kincaid, Mount Vernon. Hours: Monday-Friday from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. (closed from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch)
- The Skagit Transit Business Office, 600 County Shop Lane, Burlington. Hours: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (360) 757-8801

Website: <https://www.skagittransit.org/rider-info/fares/reduced-fares/>

Skagit Transit's Paratransit Program (formerly Dial-A-Ride)

Info: Skagit Transit's Paratransit is a public service, which provides specialized transportation comparable with Skagit Transit's fixed-route bus service. It is a pre-scheduled service designed for people who are unable to get to the nearest bus stop or use a fixed-route bus. Based on the review of an application for Paratransit service, you may receive curb to curb service, curb to fixed-route service or fixed route service only (with training). You must apply either online [here](#) or by calling the number below.

Phone: (360) 757-9191

Website: <https://www.skagittransit.org/additional-services/dial-a-ride/>

Skagit Transit- Vanpooling

Info: A vanpool is a group of three to fifteen people who regularly travel together to work, 20 miles or more, in a comfortable van. Vanpoolers can shave an average of 20 minutes off of their commute time by using the HOV lanes and lower the stress and expense of driving alone. Skagit Transit provides the van, fuel, and maintenance in exchange for a monthly fare. Riders typically meet at a designated location such as one of our many Park and Rides. Some vans have more than one pick-up or drop-off point. It all depends on the nature and needs of each vanpool group.

There is a Vanpool Manager/Coordinator and Bookkeeper who primarily collects monthly fees from the passengers, completes the monthly reports and schedules the van for preventative maintenance. There should be at least three qualified drivers per van. To join an existing vanpool, or to find others interested in forming one in your area, call us or go to RideshareOnline.com. For more information, go to the website below.

Phone: (360) 757-8801 or toll-free at (877) 584-7528 and ask for the Vanpool Coordinator

Email: vanpool@skagittransit.org

Website: <https://www.skagittransit.org/additional-services/vanpool/>

Northwest Regional Council Medicaid Transportation

Info: The NWRC arranges non-ambulance transportation to all people eligible for Medicaid who have no other means of transportation to covered medical services in Island, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom counties. It assures that the transportation authorized is the “most appropriate, least costly” method for providing the service, that is to the “nearest provider of type” of service needed.

Phone: 1-800-860-6812 or 1-800-585-6749.

Email: nwrcrides@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/medicaid-transportation/>

Angel Flight West

Info: Angel Flight West is a charitable organization whose mission is help people get to their medical treatment. Most of our flights are provided by volunteers – private pilots who fly their own airplanes and donate the costs of the flight. We also work with airline partners for trips from Alaska and Hawaii. The beneficiaries of the flight – the passengers and their families, the healthcare organizations – pay nothing at all, ever.

Location: 3161 Donald Douglas Loop South Santa Monica, CA 90405 (headquarters)

Phone: (310) 390-2958

Email: info@angelflightwest.org

Website: <https://afids.angelflightwest.org/flight-request>

American Indian/Alaska Native Resources Services by Local Tribes

Samish Indian Nation

Phone: (360) 293-6404

Website: <https://www.samishtribe.nsn.us>

- **Social Services**

Info: Provides housing, social services, food and energy assistance. Some assistance is specifically for Samish members; other programs are for all Native Americans

Location: 715 Seafarers Way, Ste. 103, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 899-5282 or (360) 726-3367

Website: <https://www.samishtribe.nsn.us/departments/housing>

Email: okolppa@samishtribe.nsn.us

- **Samish Early Learning Center and Longhouse**

Info: Head start, Early Learning Center and an Elders program.

Hours: Head Start: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: full or half day - Sept-June

Early Learning Center: 7:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m. year round

Phone: (360) 588-8806

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Location: 11404 Moorage Way, LaConner, 98257

Phone: (360) 466-3163

Website: www.swinomish.org

Info: Provides a variety of culturally relevant programs that serve Swinomish and other Native Americans.

Swinomish Clinics: Serves all enrolled Native Americans from federally recognized Tribes.

- **Medical Clinic**

Location: 7400 Reservation Rd, La Conner

Phone: (360) 466-3167

- **Dental Clinic**

Location: 17395 Reservation Road, La Conner

Phone: (360) 466-3900

Swinomish Senior Center

Info: Lunch is served Monday - Thursday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Home delivery is available for home-bound residents

Location: 17395 Reservation Road, La Conner

Phone: (360) 466-1821

Swinomish Counselling Services

Info: Counselling and psychiatric services to promote mental health wellness

Location: 17400 Reservation Road, La Conner

Phone: (360) 466-7265

Open: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Swinomish Alcohol Program

Info: Assessment, individual therapy, outpatient group sessions, DUI/Deferred Prosecutions, inpatient referral service, youth education treatment services, Medication assisted treatment (Suboxone)

Location: Swinomish Social Services Building, 17334 Reservation Road, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 466-1024 (call for appointment)

Hours: Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Website: <https://swinomish-nsn.gov/resources/health-wellness/wellness-program.aspx>

Didg'wálich Wellness Center

Info: Chemical dependency and problem gambling treatment

Location: 8212 S. March Point Road, Anacortes

Phone: (360) 588-2800

Hours: Monday-Friday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Email: info@didgwalic.com

Website: <https://www.didgwalic.com/about.htm>

Susan Wilbur Early Education Center

Info: Preschool for toddlers (1-5 yoa) providing early child development, literacy-based curriculum, referral information and support for parents, transportation, and nutritious meals. Tribal membership not required.

Location: 17400 Reservation Road, LaConner 98257

Phone: (360) 466-7345

Upper Skagit Tribe

Info: The Tribe provides numerous services for its members.

- **Chemical Dependency Program**

Phone: (360) 854-7070

- **Employment Services/Tribal TANF Program**

Phone: (360) 854-7130

- **Child Development Center**

Location: 25782 Coyote Drive, Sedro- Woolley

Phone: (360) 854-7092

Location: 25944 Community Plaza Way, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Hours: Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (360) 854-7000 (Administrative office)

Website: <https://upperskagittribe-nsn.gov>

Multi-Tribal Programs

Washington State Tribal Directory: <https://goia.wa.gov/tribal-directory>

Skagit County ReEntry Guide (Sept. 2022)

Native American Reentry Services (NARS)

Info: Currently NARS is offering expertise to tribes to support tribal reentry programs and connection to tribal members during incarceration. NARS's long-term goal is to begin providing direct services to Pierce County urban Indian population. For a list of local tribal health and wellness centers, please go to the website below.

Location: 708 Broadway, Ste. 300E, Tacoma, WA 98402

Phone: (253) 212-9227

Email: winona@nativereentry.org

Website: <https://www.nativereentry.org/healforreentry>

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

Info: Working cooperatively with the Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation [DVR], several Tribes provide services to American Indians with disabilities who are seeking employment. Locally, the Samish Vocation Rehabilitation Program serves Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties. Contact Donna Adamson, Director, at dadamson@samishtribe.nsn.us or (360) 726-3647. For other counties, see the website below for which Tribes have programs.

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr/tribal-vocational-rehabilitation-programs>

DSHS DCS Tribal Relations

Info: To facilitate the Division of Child Support (DCS)'s commitment to work government-to-government with Indian tribes to manage specialized tribal caseloads and serve as a local resource on state/tribal relations and issues, work closely with families and tribes in providing and coordinating child support services, provide training, technical assistance and presentations to local tribes, recognized American Indian organizations (RAIOs), DCS staff and DSHS staff, and provide outreach services to tribes and RAIOs and represent DCS at meetings, conferences, public forums and cultural events.

Phone: (800) 345-9976

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-relations>

Northwest Regional Council Tribal Outreach and Assistance Program

Info: Serving the Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Sauk-Suiattle, Swinomish and Upper Skagit Tribal Community members in Skagit and Whatcom Counties, this program assures access to Elders and their caregivers and provides technical assistance for programs on and off the reservations. Its focused outreach uses culturally appropriate materials and a culturally relevant approach to make services understandable and effective for the Elders. It provides information, assistance in finding culturally-appropriate care for elders needing personal care and other assistance in their homes.

Phone: (360) 676-6749 or (800) 585-6749

Email: Becky.Bendixen@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <https://www.nwrcwa.org/tribal-outreach-assistance/>

Women Spirit Coalition

Info: Also known as Washington State Native American Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, which advocates for and promotes policy on behalf of member Tribal programs

Location: 542 N 5th Ave Suite C Sequim, WA 98382

Phone: (360) 681-3710

Website: <http://www.womenspirit.net/about-us/>

AI/AN Resources: Legal Services

Northwest Indian Bar Association (NIBA)

Info: A non-profit organization of attorneys, judges and Indian law practitioners in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, & Washington that aim to improve the legal and political landscape for Pacific Northwest Indian communities. They represent and foster the education and welfare of Native American attorneys, paralegals and tribal court personnel of the Pacific Northwest, provide role models and mentors in the legal profession for Indian people, and encourage and promote pro bono legal work and civic involvement that benefits Indian people on reservations and in urban areas throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Location: 1420 5th Ave, Suite 3400, Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: (360) 681-3710

Website: <https://www.nwiba.org/>

Northwest Justice Project – Native American Unit (NAU)

Info: Aims to address the unique legal needs of Native American communities statewide. The NAU emphasizes cases involving state and federal agencies' policies and practices that have had disproportionate, adverse impacts on Native communities. Eligibility: Low-income American Indian and Alaska Natives

Location: 1420 5th Ave, Suite 3400, Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: 1 (888) 201-1014 (phone open Monday – Friday 9:15am – 12:15pm)

Website: <https://nwjustice.org/specialized-units#6>

University of Washington – Native American Law Center

Info: Promotes the development of Indian law and encourages Native Americans and others with an interest in Indian law to attend law school. We also act as a resource to Indian tribes, other governments and individuals in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska and across the country. Provides public defense services for the Tulalip Tribes.

Location: Native American Law Center, William H. Gates Hall, Box 353020 Seattle, WA 98195-3020

Phone: (206) 685-3253

Website: <https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/programs/nataive-american-law-center>

Northwest Intertribal Court System (NICS)

Info: NCIS is a consortium of Native American Indian Tribes in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. It is one of the only intertribal court systems in the country. Provides trial and appellate judges, assistance with code development, training and technical assistance.

Location: 20818 44TH Ave W. Ste. 120 Lynnwood WA 98036

Phone: (425) 774-5808

Website: <https://www.nics.ws>

Tribal Court Clearinghouse

Info: A comprehensive website contains extensive resources on tribal, state, and federal law along with extensive Indian country subject-matter resources, a training events calendar, and resources from all Tribal Law and Policy Institute webinars.

Website: <http://www.tribal-institute.org/index.htm>

Veterans

Veteran's Crisis Line:

Info: Connects Veterans and families in crisis and their families and friends with qualified responders through a confidential toll-free hotline

Phone: 1-800-273-8255, then press 1.

VA Puget Sound Call Center

Info: Regional health care services: Emergency, urgent care, primary care, cancer treatment and more. See also Community Based Outpatient Clinic below.

Phone: 800-329-8387, Ext. 71234

Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Skagit County Veterans Homeless Care Line

Phone: (360) 588-5156

Website: <https://www.communityactionskagit.org/skagit-vets-connect>

Skagit Vets Connect

Info: Help for veterans with basic needs, transportation, housing support, family supportive services, and applications for benefits. Mobile dental services for low-income veterans.

Location: 160 Cascade Pl, Burlington

Phone: (360) 416-7585

Hours: Mondays-Fridays from 9am-3pm

Community Based Outpatient Clinic

Location: 307 South 13th Street, Suite 200, Mount Vernon, WA 98274-4100

Main phone: (360) 848-8500. Must call Puget Sound Call Center (800) 329-8387, Ext. 71234) to request an appointment.

Mental health clinic: (206) 764-2007

Website: <https://www.va.gov/puget-sound-health-care/locations/mount-vernon-va-clinic/>

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

Info: Some justice-involved Veterans may be eligible for VA benefits: [Disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, Veteran readiness and employment](#). See our [Veterans](#) page for an overview of the benefits available to all Veterans. Please be aware many VA benefits can be affected by incarceration. Click [here](#) for information on benefits most affected by imprisonment.

Phone: 800-827-1000

Website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/persona/veteran-incarcerated.asp>

The following sections provide information for justice-involved Veterans.

- **Health Care for Reentry Veterans (HCRV)**

Info: HCRV services include:

- Outreach and pre-release assessments services for Veterans in prison
- Referrals and linkages to medical, mental health and social services, including employment services on release
- Short-term case management assistance on release

The HCRV [specialist](#) may provide assistance. Send an email with your contact information and a brief message about your concern. Specialists are often working in the community, and so if they don't reply right away, send another email.

Email: Anthony.sparber@va.gov (current HCRV specialist for Washington)

Website: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry.asp>. This website has links to various videos that may assist you in learning about these services.

- **Health care for Homeless veterans**

Info: VA offers many health care programs for homeless Veterans. Click [here](#) to read about the programs. If you are a homeless Veteran who needs medical assistance, call the National Call Center for Homeless

Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838) to speak to a trained VA responder. The Call Center and homeless Veterans online chat are free and neither VA registration nor enrollment in VA healthcare is required to use either service. To chat, go to <https://www.va.gov/homeless/hchv.asp> and click on Chat Now at the bottom of the page.

Sedro-Woolley American Legion George Baldrige Post 43

Location: 701 Murdock St, Sedro-Woolley

Phone: (360) 855-0520

Hours: Monday - Friday from 2 p.m.- 9 pm (social lounge)

Friday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (coffee, financial and other assistance), dinners on Friday.

East County Resource Center

Info: Veterans Assistance Benefits, Disability Compensation and Pension Claims, Elderly & Disabled Veteran & Widow Programs and more

Location: 45770 Main Street, Concrete

Phone: (360) 416-1733

Voter Registration

*The following information is pulled from the Washington Secretary of State Elections page

(<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/felons-and-voting-rights.aspx>)

Effective January 1st, 2022, if you were convicted of a felony in Washington State, another state, or in federal court, your right to vote will be restored automatically as long as you are not currently serving a DOC sentence of total confinement in prison

When the right to vote is restored

- If you were convicted of a felony in Washington State, another state, or in federal court, your right to vote will be restored automatically as long as you are not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.
- If you were convicted of a felony in another state or in federal court, your right to vote is restored automatically as long as you are not currently incarcerated for that felony.
- You do not lose the right to vote for a misdemeanor conviction or a conviction in juvenile court.
- You do not need a certificate of discharge (COD) to have your voting rights restored.

Registering to Vote

Once your right to vote is restored, **you must register to vote** if you want to vote. If you were previously registered to vote, you must re-register to vote. You can register online with [VoteWA](#), [printing and returning a form](#), [in person at your county elections department](#) or request a voter registration form be [mailed to you](#). You do not need a certificate of discharge (COD) to register to vote.

Visit the [Voter Eligibility](#) page, for more information.