You can do your interview at your local Community Services Office or over the phone at **1-877-501-2233**

To apply for Basic Food online go to:
washingtonconnection.org

You can do your interview at your local Community Services Office or over the phone at:
1-877-501-2233

For information on the Basic Food and Employment and Training Program, go online to:
http://www.basicfoodet.org/

Washington State Department of Social & Health Services

Transforming lives

DSHS 22-1572 (8/14)

Are you homeless?

Basic Food can help!

Take a Fresh Look

Basic Food

Can I receive Basic Food if I live on the street, in a shelter, in a vehicle, in a motel or in another temporary situation?

- If you do not have a permanent address, you may still qualify for Basic Food. You can use the address of an authorized representative as a place to receive mail.
- If you are staying at a shelter, you can still receive Basic Food even if the shelter provides meals.
- If you are under 18 years old, homeless, and do not live with your parents or guardian, you can still receive Basic Food.

Can I receive Basic Food while I stay with someone else short term?

You may still be eligible for Basic Food even if you're staying with someone else for up to 90 days.

- If you have no money for food and currently eat with your housemates until you can get money for food, you don't need to apply with the people you are staying with unless you plan to regularly buy and cook food with them after you receive Basic Food.
- If you regularly buy and cook food with the other people you are staying with, you would all have to apply and be eligible for food together.
- If you regularly buy and cook for yourself or your family only, you don't need to apply with the other people you are currently staying with unless you are under age 22 and you are staying with your parents.

How do I apply for Basic Food?

You can apply for Basic Food by:

- Going to your local community service office;
- Applying online at: **washingtonconnection.org**; or
- Getting help to apply from a Basic Food outreach provider.
- DSHS works with many community partners to provide Basic Food applications and help with the application process. To find help nearby, go online to: **washingtonconnection.org/home/publicaccessdirectory.go**

You can find a provider online at: **foodhelp.wa.gov/map.htm**

You can use the computer at most public libraries to access the internet.

Do I need photo ID or proof of who I am to apply for Basic Food?

A photo ID is one way to prove identity. You can't be turned down for Basic Food benefits because you don't have a photo ID. You can use other forms of ID such as:

- A work or school ID card
- A birth certificate
- A voter registration card
- A health benefit card
- ID from another social service
- A pay stub

The Basic Food worker can check your identification by calling a shelter worker or your employer.

Do I need to have an interview for Basic Food?

You must have an interview for Basic Food. You can do your interview at your local Community Services Office or over the phone at: **1-877-501-2233**.

Can I get help with training or finding a job?

- Yes! If you get Basic Food, you can volunteer for the Basic Food Employment &Training (BFET) Program.
- BFET provides job search, job search training, educational services, skills training, and other employment opportunities to people who receive Basic Food.

Many organizations may provide help with transportation, childcare, or other resources that can help you work toward your career goals. Services are provided through community or technical colleges and/or community based organizations (CBO) and cover a wide variety of job sectors and career fields. For information on BFET services, go online to: **http://www.basicfoodet.org/**