Survey Shows Support for WA Cares Fund and Program Features

New research from AARP shows a majority of Washington voters support the WA Cares Fund and that amount increases for the specific program features. The survey of registered voters age 18+ explored understanding and support of the WA Cares program.

WA Cares Fund Critically Important

51% of Washingtonians say they support the program and support increases when more information is provided about the key features of the WA Cares Fund Program:

- 80% say it’s important that no one can be turned down for pre-existing conditions.
  - Private long-term care insurance often won’t insure people with pre-existing conditions or disabilities or will require they pay more.

- 76% say it’s important that WA Cares allows participants to pay family caregivers to help with their needs.
  - Private long-term care insurance rarely allows for direct payments to family caregivers.

- 73% say it’s important that both men and women pay the same amount for coverage.
  - Private long-term care insurance rates for women can be up to 50% more than for men.

- 70% say it’s important that workers only pay into the WA Cares Fund during their working years.
  - Private long-term care insurance payments can continue for decades after retirement.

- 70% say it’s important that WA Cares costs less than long-term care insurance for most workers.
  - Private long-term care insurance costs the average 60-year-old $2,057 per year, according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.


https://doi.org/10.26419/res.00498.002

Contacts
Cathy Maccaul | cmaccaul@aarp.org | AARP Washington
Terri Guengerich | tguengerich@aarp.org | AARP Research
Needs of Washingtonians

96% want services that would allow them or loved ones to stay at home as long as possible
98% want to be able to choose where they receive long-term care services
70% of Washingtonians 65 and older will require some assistance to live independently as they age*

Who Pays for Long Term Care?

74% of Washington voters are not confident or only somewhat confident about their ability to pay for their long-term care needs.

MISTAKENLY believe private health insurance, Medicare or Medicare supplement insurance would pay for a stay in a nursing home.

MISTAKENLY believe private health insurance, Medicare or Medicare supplement insurance would pay for a home visit by a paid caregiver.

Learn More

Help to inform our communities and ensure all Washingtonians have access to affordable and equitable long-term options care when they need it by sharing your support for the WA Cares Fund!

Visit wacaresfund.wa.gov to learn more.
Visit aarp.org/wa to get involved.

https://doi.org/10.26419/res.00498.002


Contacts
Cathy Maccaul | cmaccaul@aarp.org | AARP Washington
Terri Guengerich | tguengerich@aarp.org | AARP Research