



## WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY Human Resource Services

*This email is being sent to all faculty, staff and non-student hourly employees.*

### Status of Long Term Care Premiums Collection

On Friday, December 17, 2021, Governor Inslee and the Legislature released a statement saying adjustments are being considered to the Washington Cares Fund legislation, often referred to as the Long Term Care benefit. Many state of Washington employees and employers provided feedback on the legislation, which the legislature has agreed needs to be reviewed and modified.

Until the legislation is changed, Washington State University, along with other state agencies and institutions, will proceed with collecting the WA Cares Fund premiums in January, 2022 as required by the existing state law. The governor directed the Employment Security Department (ESD) to not collect any premiums from employers until the close of the quarter in order to give the Legislature time to work on these projected modifications. This, however, does not change the current legislation that requires employers to collect the premiums from employees.

The Legislature has the ability to make modifications to the WA Cares Program, including addressing the premium collection, which the announcement states is their intention for the 2022 legislation session. In the event the law changes, WSU will comply with the changes and follow the new timelines identified; if it reflects the premiums collected starting in January 2022 should not have been, this will also be addressed by the university.

To review the WA Cares Fund benefit and provisions, visit [wacaresfund.wa.gov](https://wacaresfund.wa.gov) and the [HRS LTC website](#).

Note: If you applied for and received an exemption from tax from ESD, and submitted your notice to Payroll Services in December or earlier, you should not see the tax reflected on your pay stub.

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