

Appendix H – Holistic Look at Exemptions and Reduced Fees

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

THE
WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Holistic Look at Exemptions and Reduced Fee Programs in Washington and the United States

Prepared for: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission,
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
OVERVIEW OF PASSES & ASSOCIATED AGENCIES IN WA	4
DETAILED ELIGIBILITY & PASS BENEFITS	4
POPULATION, USE, AND FISCAL IMPACT (STATE PROGRAMS)	7
OTHER STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS	9
NATIONAL TRENDS: IN DEPTH	12
OTHER DATA NEEDS	16

Overview of Exemptions/Reduced Fee Programs & Associated Agencies in WA

In Washington, nine state and federal agencies administer and recognize eleven different exemptions or reduced-fee programs. Eligibility requirements, cost to individual, benefit provided, and the process for acquiring a pass or accessing a program vary by agency and reduced-fee program. Some programs require an individual to submit proof of eligibility in advance of recreating (i.e. submit required documents proving service-related disability to receive disabled veterans lifetime pass), while others just require proof of eligibility to be shown at upon accessing the recreation site (i.e. display handicap placard). The narrative below provides an overview of agencies, and the benefits and acquisition process associated with (both state and federal) exempt and reduced-fee programs in Washington. Detailed information on pass administration and eligibility can be found in the Holistic Look appendix.

Detailed Eligibility & Pass Benefits

Under each program heading the individual exemption or reduced-fee program/pass name is given, agencies where this benefit is valid are listed, followed by program eligibility, the benefits provided to the target population, and the administration procedures for each programs.

Disability Programs

Disability Pass (established in 1977)

Applicable: WA State Parks (<http://parks.state.wa.us/205/Passes>)

Eligibility: Washington state residents (living in Washington for a minimum of three consecutive months) qualify who are legally blind, profoundly deaf, developmentally disabled, or who meet the disability definition used by the U.S. Social Security Administration. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission evaluates applications - short-term disabilities are eligible only for the One-Year Disability Pass, otherwise a 5-year pass is issued. It is important to note that disability placards are accepted by State Parks, therefore out-of-state visitors may receive this benefit.

Provided Benefits: A Permanent Disability Parking Permit or License Plate, issued by the Washington State Department of Licensing, entitles the beneficiary to a 50% disability discount on camping and moorage and waives the trailer dump, boat launch and day use entry fee.

Administration: The Disability Pass is granted by State Parks with documentation of age, and disability. An application form is found on the State Parks website and must be mailed with potential 30-day processing delay. Alternatively, a Permanent Disability Parking Permit may also be used, accompanied by a photo ID and shown to a park ranger (Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, 2017b).

Interagency Access Pass (established in 2007)

Applicable: All Federal Agencies nationwide

Eligibility: US citizen or permanent resident with medical determination and documentation of permanent disabilities.

Provided Benefits: The Access Pass is a free equivalent to the Interagency Pass, honored nationwide by all participating agencies

Military/Veteran

Disabled Veterans Pass (established in 1977)

Applicable: WA State Parks

Eligibility: Washington state residents (minimum three consecutive months) with a documented service-connected disability of at least 30%.

Provided Benefits: All benefits of Discover Pass (only on State Parks land), as well as all free camping / moorage, campsite reservations through State Parks central reservations system, watercraft launching, trailer dump and day-use entry. Valid year-round.

Administration: The Disabled Veterans Pass is granted by State Parks with documentation of age, service, and disability. An application form is found on the State Parks website and must be mailed with potential 30-day processing delay.

Interagency Annual Pass for Military (established in 2007)

Applicable: All Federal Agencies nationwide

Eligibility: Current US military members and the dependents of deployed military in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, as well as most members of the Current US Reserves and National Guard.

Provided Benefits: The Interagency Annual Pass for Military is a free equivalent to the Interagency Pass, honored nationwide by all participating agencies.

Administration: The Annual Pass for Military is available at most entrance stations and requires proof of active status. Eligible dependents must fill out a Department of Defense ID, or DD Form 1173 (Interagency Standard Operating Procedures, 2012).

Senior/Elder Programs

Off-Season Senior Citizen Pass (established in 2011)

Applicable: WA State Parks

Eligibility: WA residents aged 62 and over.

Provided Benefits: Pass price is \$75 and provides: free nightly camping and moorage from Oct. 1 – March 31 and Sunday – Thursday in April. An additional \$10/night fee applies at utility sites.

Administration: 1. The Off-Season Senior Citizen Pass application is found online and must be mailed in. Seasonality of this pass (see Detailed Benefits) must be carefully attended to.

Senior Citizen Limited Income Pass (established in 1997)

Applicable: WA State Parks

Eligibility: WA residents aged 62 and over with annual income of \$40,000 or less.

Provided Benefits: This pass provides access to WA State Parks lands, a 50% discount on nightly camping and moorage, free watercraft launching, trailer dump and is valid year-round.

Administration: The Senior Citizen Limited Income Pass application is also found online and requires mailing. Proof of eligibility requires federal income tax return from the previous

year; a senior citizen property tax exemption; or notarized affidavit of income on a form provided by State Parks (Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, 2017b).

Interagency Senior Pass (established in 2007)

Applicable: All Federal Agencies nationwide

Eligibility: U.S. citizens or permanent residents aged 62 and over.

Provided Benefits: The Interagency Senior Pass is a lifetime pass. It is valid at all interagency participating sites. One time cost of \$80.

Foster Families

Foster Home Camping Pass (established in 2008)

Applicable: State Parks

Eligibility: This benefit is free for foster families. Proof of eligibility requires state residency plus Foster Care ID and Foster Home License. Foster parents or caregivers must be accompanied by the foster child(ren). It is notable that, disclosing the identity of foster children is forbidden and therefore enforcement of this benefit is potentially challenging.

Provided Benefits: It provides: free campsites and day-use entry, free use of boat launches and pump-outs. For camping reservations: parents pay to reserve camping sites in advance but can otherwise receive the free camping benefit on a first-come, first-served basis.

Administration: There is no formal application process for this benefit. "Participants in the program may camp at first-come, first-served parks or make a telephone reservation to camp in a reservation park. Eligible participants making reservations do not pay for camping but are charged the reservation fee to hold sites in the reservation system. To get free camping when making a reservation, tell the operator you are a foster care provider. Then, when you arrive at the park to register, show a Washington State Driver's License or Washington State I.D., along with a Foster Care ID card or your Foster Home License. Walk-in campers need to show these same documents at the park to receive a free campsite and day use" (Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, 2017b).

Volunteers

Complimentary Discover Pass (established in 2011)

Applicable: WA State Parks, WA Department of Natural Resources, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Eligibility: Free for volunteers (individual or married couples) with 24 hours of public service on state lands

Provided Benefits: Benefits are equivalent to a complimentary Discover Pass

Administration: To obtain a Complimentary Discover Pass individuals must register and be approved by a state agency. Vouchers are retained upon volunteering time to Discover Pass-eligible projects ("Volunteering on Washington State Recreation Lands," 2017). Vouchers are then sent to the address listed on the bottom of each voucher. If more than 24 hours equivalent are earned, extra vouchers can be saved and redeemed in subsequent years. Married couples may combine hours (Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, 2017b).

Interagency Annual Volunteer Pass (established in 2007)

Applicable: All Federal Agencies

Eligibility: Free upon completion of 250 volunteer hours on participating federal agency lands.

Provided Benefits: Benefits are equivalent to an Annual Interagency Access Pass

Administration: To obtain the Interagency Annual Volunteer Pass 250 hours of volunteer work in approved programs. An individual will work with their local Federal recreation site supervisor or Volunteer Coordinator/Manager to track their hours. Once an individual completes the requisite hours, a pass is issued and the volunteer's pass credit hours reset to zero. If a volunteer gives more than 250 hours in any 12 month period, the pass-credit hours do not roll over into the next 12 month period (*Interagency Standard Operating Procedures*, 2012).

Annual Northwest Forest Pass (Volunteers) (established in 2011)

Applicable: US Forest Service

Eligibility: This annual pass is granted to volunteers on the basis of participation in eligible volunteer days for a total of 16 hours. Volunteering for less than 16 hours earns a single day pass. To find volunteer opportunities, individuals can visit www.volunteer.gov or contact program specialists in their local area, found on the US Forest Service website. Additionally, the Washington Trails Association offers a schedule on their website that indicates eligible days.

Provided Benefits: Benefit is equivalent to Annual Northwest Forest Pass or Day Pass depending on number of hours worked. Sixteen (16) hours or more earns an annual pass, while anything less earns a day pass (Mitchell, 2017).

Population, Use, and Fiscal Impacts (State Programs)

The following section outlines the lost revenue to State Parks for administering exempt/reduced fee programs, these estimates only considers State Parks, since they are the only agency that administers exempt/reduced fee programs. The one exception is the Volunteer Pass, which is administered by all three agencies. The following numbers are an estimation as participation by each beneficiary group is not closely tracked, therefore State Parks extrapolates based on general population usage rates. In 2014 a 19% participation rate is assumed, in 2017 this was revised downward to %16, except for the Foster Home Camping Pass which has estimated participation of 24%. Table 1 below shows fiscal impacts for each program, differentiating between direct costs and camping subsidy costs and noting the change from 2014 to 2017.

Disability Pass

In 2017, the total number of permanent disability permits awarded was used to develop an estimate of the population eligible, a total of 442,189. Subtracting Disabled Veteran qualifiers leaves 350,457 potential beneficiaries. Applying the 2017 participation estimate gives a total of 56,073 participants.

Disabled Veterans Lifetime Pass:

There were approximately 564,864 veterans residing in Washington in 2015³⁹. In 2017, an estimated 91,711 have a service-related disability rating of 30% or greater (Audette & Stenovec, 2017). With 2017 participation estimates applied to this population, a total of 18,565 are assumed to participate.

Low-Income Senior Pass:

The 2017 estimates of participation (14%) applied to the base population of 230,530 gives an estimated of 36,885 total households participating.

Foster Home Camping Pass:

In 2017 the base population was 1,884 with a participation estimate of 14%, an estimated total of 452 participated.

Table 2. Financial data for exemption groups 2014 & 2017.

Program	Camping Subsidy Cost Estimate	Lost Revenue Cost Estimate	Total Direct Cost
<i>Disability</i>	\$513,807	\$1,682,194	\$2,196,000
<i>Disabled Veterans</i>	\$2,369,818	\$440,314	\$2,810,132
<i>Low-Income Seniors</i>	\$89,853	\$1,106,543	\$1,196,395
<i>Foster Families</i>	\$145,635	\$13,565	\$159,199
TOTALS	\$3,119,113	\$3,242,616	\$6,361,726

Volunteers (Complimentary Discover Pass):

All Washington residents are eligible to participate in the Volunteer program. SB 5200 reports an average of 423 complimentary discover passes issued per year (across 5 years of data), with married couples qualifying an estimated 63 additional complimentary passes are issued annually = estimated total of 486 households receiving this pass. Volunteer program cost data is based on five-year average number of complimentary passes issued each year from SB5200 (2017) fiscal note (486 passes), multiplied by base price (\$30) for Discover Pass to arrive at the estimated total direct cost of \$14,580.

Free Days:

Cost estimate for fee free days is derived from the 2013 Legislative Report. The estimated total of one-day passes purchased per year (294,752 one-day passes/year) is multiplied by base price for day pass (\$10/day) and divided by days/year (365 days) to give average revenue/day generated by day passes – equal to \$8,075/day. This amount is then multiplied by the total number of free days offered by State Parks (12 days) to arrive at the **estimated total direct cost of \$96,900.**

³⁹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015 American Community Survey.
https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk

State and Federal Nexus – Legislation, Fees, and Revenue Sharing

The U.S. Congress and the Washington State Legislature play significant roles as the funders of public land management agencies and authorizers of pass/permit fee collection, including exempt/reduced fee programs. Depending on which package or recommendations are considered, Congress or the Washington state legislature could have roles of varying size and importance. Congress would need to be involved in various versions of a state/federal coordination pass, and the Washington Legislature would need to be involved in a wider variety of components that require legislative authorization. These considerations are discussed further within each specific package or recommendation.

Other State and Federal Programs

Disability Programs (Washington State Dept. of Social and Health Services, 2017b)

- Disability plates, parking tabs and placards are available through the Department of Licensing. Applicants may apply by mail or in person with an accompanying medical certification, signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or registered nurse practitioner. The qualifying medical representative will indicate the privilege duration (permanent or temporary) on the form. Fees charged (additional to vehicle registration) are \$32.75 for license plates, \$13.75 for parking tabs and placards are free of charge. Within 2-4 weeks of applying, qualified persons also receive an ID card indicating their eligibility.
- Department of Social and Health Services has a multitude of offices and programs for mental health, medical & dental insurance, food, vocational rehabilitation and cash assistance.
 - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) – This is a **federal** cash benefit program that is linked closely with the applicants work history as eligibility is determined on the basis of the applicant having held a job covered by Social Security and subsequent disability leading to inability to work for a year or more. Applications are reviewed by DDS.
 - Under Social Security “disability” is defined: (1) You cannot do the work you did before; (2) You cannot adjust to other work because of your disability; (3) The duration of your disability extends beyond a year.
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) – This is a **federal** cash benefit program aimed at those who meet federal disability criteria and have limited income/resources. Disability Determination Services (DDS) is tasked with determining eligibility during the application process (DSHS, 2017a).
 - Upon meeting eligibility requirements for SSI an individual is automatically entitled to Medicaid (Apple Health) benefits.

Military

- The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (2017) offers support for:
 - Claims assistance, counseling, education and training, employment, federal veterans' assistance resources, housing, homelessness, incarceration, business certification and women veterans.

- The eligibility for a Washington state disabled veteran license plate is a 100% service-connected disability rating from the Veterans Administration. The eligibility for both the WA State Parks Disabled Veteran Lifetime Pass and WDFW Veterans Reduced Fees is a 30% service connected disability. In other words, if a disabled veteran qualifies for a disabled veteran license plate, they would also qualify for the State Parks and WDFW disabled veteran benefits. Currently, an individual must apply for each of the three programs separately.

Senior/Elder Programs

- Department of Social and Health Services provides a broad suite of services:
 - Long term care, abuse prevention, Medicaid application assistance, assisted living programs, caregiver and residential care services (Access Washington, 2016).
- SSI benefits are also payable to people 65 and older without disabilities who meet the financial limits (See *Low Income*). Eligibility is based upon age (65+), residence (single, couple) and income. If living in another's household the benefit is reduced by 1/3 (Staples, 1974).
- SNAP (see *Low Income*) – Special rules apply for certain elderly people, either in the form of greater resource allowances for the household in which they reside or exceptions in eligibility to receive benefits while living in federally subsidized housing (even when they receive meals at the facility)(USDA, 2016).

Foster Families

- The Department of Social and Health Services also supports foster families through financial assistance, and help navigating administrative requirements (Washington State Dept. of Social and Health Services, 2017a).
- In mid-2017 HB 1661 was passed creating the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF). The bill aimed to improve preventative strategies, communication and services to support these groups. An advisory board will include foster family advocates to help guide decision-making within the DCYF, among others (Hunter, 2017).
- WIC eligibility for foster teens and children under the age of five (See *Low-Income* section below)(Social Security Administration, 2017).
- Embrace Washington partners with DSHS to connect individuals and families with vulnerable children. ("Fostering Together," 2017)

Volunteers

- Volunteer Centers of Washington is a resource that "strengthens, develops and connects volunteer centers by sharing expertise and resources" ("Volunteer Centers of Washington," 2014)

Low-Income

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – This is a **federal** program with eligibility determined across resources, income, deductions, employment, and age &

disability. Households must have \$2,250 in countable resources. Income level check is required unless all household members are receiving TANF or SSI benefits. The threshold to receive SNAP assistance is 130% of federal poverty level (FPL) for GROSS monthly income and 100% FPL of NET monthly income. Work requirements “include registering for work, not voluntarily quitting a job or reducing hours, taking a job if offered, and participating in employment and training programs assigned by the State” (USDA, 2016). In Washington beneficiaries may have a debit card to receive benefits.

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – This is a **temporary** program with benefits based upon family size and income e.g. “A family of three, with no income, would receive a monthly TANF grant of \$521” (DSHS, 2017b). In general, a family must have resources of \$1,000 or less. Additionally, some qualifying will be required to participate in the WorkFirst Program which assists with job placement.
- Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) – this **state** program provides a subsidy on the basis of income and household size on a sliding scale, requiring some co-pay. Parents or qualified guardians are eligible if income is less than 85% of the State median income AND under 200% of the federal poverty level (DSHS, 2017c).
- Women Infants and Children Nutrition Program (WIC) – WIC is a nutrition program targeting pregnant women, new and breastfeeding moms and children under five. WIC can be applied for in addition to TANF, Medicaid and Basic Food benefits. Eligibility is based on income and household size as shown:

Number of people in your household*	Maximum annual income to qualify	Maximum monthly income to qualify
2	\$30,044	\$2,504
3	\$37,777	\$3,149
4	\$45,510	\$3,793
5	\$53,243	\$4,437
6	\$60,976	\$5,082
7	\$68,709	\$5,726

Table 3. The WIC program “income guidelines”(WSDH, 2017).

- SSI – a **federal** cash benefit program with resource limits of \$2,000 for an individual/child and \$3,000 for couples. Eligible populations are those with a disability or “aged” (meaning 65+). Administratively this means that if the value of an individual/couple’s financial resources is greater than these amounts, they will not qualify for SSI benefits. Determination of eligibility is made by DDS.

Other considerations:

- Verification system/data sharing agreements would need to be set up with each pass vendor, would require salesperson to check eligibility and then sell/provide pass.

- Another potential vehicle for informing individuals of eligibility for free discover pass could link to DSHS grants award letters.
- Department of Revenue administers a property tax discount, could this be tied to pass benefits aimed at low income groups?

National Trends: In-Depth

Disability Programs

- On a national level, 23 out of 50 states offer free/fee reduced passes for *permanently* disabled patrons, with 10 of those states offering passes for free. In contrast, nearly all states (47) do not offer free/fee reduced passes for *short-term* disabled patrons. Washington is one of the three exceptions, offering a free one-year disability pass to individuals with short-term disabilities.
- 10 states accept state-specific out-of-state disabled passes – Washington not being one of them.
- On average, more than 36 states do not offer fee reduction or exemption on camping or day-use fees; in total 38 percent, including Washington, offered some reduction in price. No states, however, offer fully exempt camping fees.
- Nationally, 93.5 percent of states do not offer any reduction or exemption in fees for other “expanded amenities,” such as watercraft access, trailer dump, moorage use or roofed accommodation. Of note: Washington offers free/fee reduced use to three of these four amenities.
- Compared to national trends, Washington offered exempt fees for trailer dump and watercraft access expanded amenities, placing the state amongst only four other states. For moorage use, Washington was one of two states to offer reduced fees (no states offered this amenity for free).
- Using the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act definition of ‘enhanced amenities,’ Washington ranges from the 98th percentile to 74th percentile over other states in terms of offering exempt or reduced fees (omitting Roofed Accommodations, which 48 out of 50 states offer no reduction or exemption). On average, Washington is in the 89th percentile above other states in terms of offering exempt or reduced fees for individuals with disabilities. In Washington, disabilities can range from permanent to short-term.
- Proof of permanent disabilities is required for the five-year exempt disabilities pass, while documented short-term disabilities are eligible for only the one-year pass. Washington’s eligibility requirements must be documented and certified by an authorizing doctor or agency, including DSHS and SSA. Nationally, the range of eligible disabilities expand from state-specific requirements as determined by local departments of motor vehicles to a documented disability categorizing the patron 100 percent disabled. For states without state-specific levels, a default to federal regulations that are referred to determine the eligibility for Interagency Access Pass are used.

Fee Free Days

- Every year federal and state public lands agencies announce a schedule of fee-free days. State Parks is the only state public lands agency that has fee-free days. The Department of Natural Resources and Washington Fish and Wildlife have none.
- Nationally, 16 states, including Washington, offer fee-free days. Omitting Washington, the average fee-free days is 1.25 days annually. Of these 15 states, the range is between one and three days annually, with the mode being one day.
- Comparatively, Washington is a significant outlier on a national level. By way of statute passed during the creation of the Discover Pass, State Parks must offer at least 12 fee-free days annually.

Military & Veterans

- Of all 50 states, 38 (including Washington) offer some type of military or veteran related fee reduction or exemption.
- Nationally, 17 of 50 states offer a fee reduction or exemption for all military personnel, though only 3 states offer fee reduction or exemption for military families. Washington offers a fee exemption for disabled veterans, but does not provide a fee reduction or exemption for other members of the military and their families.
- Nationally, 40 of the 50 states offer free/fee reduced passes (24 free, 16 reduced) for disabled veterans.
- Of the states offering disabled veteran fee reductions or exemptions, the eligibility requirement for disabled veterans ranges from 10-100% disability, with a mode of 100%; qualifying disability rates must be service connected. The Washington state eligibility requirement is 30%, meaning that a greater number of veterans are likely able to qualify for a fee exemption in Washington than other states offering disabled veterans fee reductions or exemptions.
- In Washington, disabled veterans with a 30% service related disability rate receive free entrance to WA State Parks, as well as additional benefits. However, the Discover Pass is still required for disabled veterans to access DNR and WDFW land.

Senior/Elder Program

- Of the 50 states, 31 states offer senior citizens a fee reduction or exemption. Of the 31 states that offer a fee reduction or exemption, 19 states offer the discount and benefits to in-state residents only, while the remaining 12 offer the discount to all senior citizens meeting their state's age requirement.
- Of the states offering a senior or elderly fee reductions or exemptions, the eligibility requirement for disabled veterans ranges from 62-65 years of age, with a mode of 62 (which is the qualifying age in Washington).
- Though only seven states report the number of senior passes they issued in FY16, Washington issued significantly less (450 passes) than the other 6 states with available data:
 - Connecticut – 4,200

- Mississippi – 4,591
- New Jersey – 1,200
- North Dakota – 16,500
- South Carolina – 34,000
- Texas – 21,446
- Nationally, only 2 states offer a fee reduction or exemption for low income seniors, including the state of Washington.
- In Washington, qualifying senior citizens can receive a fee reduction or exemption; however, the Discover Pass is still required for senior citizens to access Washington state DNR and WDFW land.

Foster Families

- Currently, Washington is one of only 5 states to offer a benefit program to foster families: WA, FL, OR, VT, CT, all 5 states offer the pass or benefit for free.
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (2017), estimates a total of 1,884 eligible foster family households. Applying the assumed 24% participation rate for all households to this value indicates that approximately 452 foster family households utilized this benefit. This is the lowest value of issued passes for all 5 states. Connecticut, at 400 in FY16, issued more passes than Washington. Oregon, issued 2,763 in FY16 and 1,000 were issued by Vermont.
- Most striking about the discrepancy between WA (and OR) and CT, is in the former foster families receive passes when entering a park and/or camping. In CT, their program began nearly 10 years ago by sending a letter to all 2,600 foster families notifying them of the opportunity for free parks passes (nearly 1,500 accepted in the inaugural year). That issuance number in CT has now dwindled to 600 foster families accepting the offer.

Volunteers

- Of the 50 states, 48 have a camp host volunteer program. Of those 48 states with a camp host program, only 11 states offer camp host volunteers a fee reduction or exemption. Washington State does have a camp host program but does not offer a fee reduction or exemption to camp host volunteers.
- For states with a camp host volunteer program, the required minimum length of stay ranges from 2-124 days, with a mode of 30 days. The maximum length of stay ranges from 14-214 days, with a mode of 184. The Washington state camp host program requires individuals to stay at least 30 days, but does not have a maximum time limit.
- Of the 50 states, 39 states have an individual volunteer program. Of those 39 states, 13 states offer individual volunteers a fee reduction or exemption, Washington is one of the 13 states offering volunteer benefits.
- Of the states who offer a fee reduction or exemption to volunteers meeting their state hour requirements, required volunteer hours range from 2 to 5,000. However, most

requirements fall between 20-200 hours, with a mode of 100 hours. Washington sits at the lower end of this spectrum, requiring state volunteers to work for 24 hours to receive a free annual pass.

Limited-Income

Although the only pass program linked to income in Washington state is the Senior Citizen Limited Income Pass, other states offer broader income based passes. Colorado and Delaware offer low-income based passes while Georgia and North Dakota offer park passes available for check-out through the public library system, making passes available to low-income individuals.

- Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Centennial Pass. For eligibility, applicants “must be a Colorado resident, at least 18 years of age, and have a gross federal income from a previous calendar year below a specific income level, depending on family size.” Centennial Passes are \$14, non-discounted annual park passes are \$70 per vehicle. While the standard annual pass is tied to a vehicle, the Centennial Pass is tied to a person and therefore transferable between vehicles.
- Delaware State Parks, Annual Pass Assistance Program. If an individual receives assistance from a State Service Center, they are likely eligible to purchase a state park pass for \$10 (normally \$35 for in-state residents, \$70 for out of state residents). Individuals are eligible if they receive assistance in the following programs: Public Assistance, General Assistance, Medicaid, Supplemental Social Security Income, SNAP, WIC, Child Care Assistance Program.

Unique Option: Library Passes

- Georgia Department of Natural Resources, State Parks & Historic Sites – Library Loan Program. “Georgians with public library cards can check out a ParkPass and Historic Site Pass—much like checking out a book. The ParkPass exempts you from paying the daily \$5 parking fee at state parks, and the Historic Sites Family Pass exempts up to 4 visitors from admission fees to state historic sites.”
- North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, Library Loan Program. “Library card holders at the public libraries or State Library in North Dakota can check out a daily state park vehicle pass, just as they would a book. The pass provides entrance to any North Dakota State Park and waives the daily vehicle fee of \$7”

Other Research Needs

All Programs

- More recent data on usage rates and participation.
- Cost to user/agency returns resulting from exempt groups’ requisite purchase of Discover Pass to enable recreation on other state agencies’ lands.
- Information on the broader social barriers affecting the target populations, going beyond purchasing ability.
- Availability of program information to each eligible group.

- Changes in funding/cost circumstances for agencies since the programs were first created.

Military

- For veterans with a disability. What lands does this group recreate the most on?
- Do veterans who do not hunt/fish apply for these licenses to gain the Vehicle Access Pass, and thus access to WA Dept. Fish and Wildlife lands?