

Blake Decision Refunds

What is the Blake Decision?

In 2021, the Washington State Supreme Court found the law criminalizing drug possession unconstitutional, as it did not distinguish between intentional and unintentional possession. As a result of this decision, known as *State v. Blake*, any simple drug possession convictions on or before February 25, 2021 qualify to be vacated (removed) from one's criminal record. Additionally, any payments of fines or costs in relation to a *Blake* conviction may qualify for reimbursement.

Blake Cost of Supervision (COS) Refunds

A **cost of supervision** is a legislatively mandated fee assessed to an individual for the period of community supervision. **Blake Cost of Supervision (COS) Refunds** are refunds of supervision fees assessed and paid while in the community on a vacated *Blake* eligible cause only.

The **Department of Corrections (DOC)** COS Unit is proactively reviewing accounts for all individuals with a sentence vacated due to *State v. Blake*. No action is required by you unless you need to update your address with the DOC. If you are eligible for a refund following review, the COS Unit will notify you.

CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN A DOC PRISON OR REENTRY CENTER FACILITY?

Your refund will automatically be applied to your Trust Accounting System account. If you originally paid the COS while in the community, it will be eligible for deductions as outlined in DOC Policy 200.000 Trust Accounts for Incarcerated Individuals.

NOT CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN A DOC PRISON OR REENTRY CENTER FACILITY?

- If you are on supervision in the community, the COS Unit will contact your case manager to confirm the address in the DOC's electronic file is valid for mailing.
- For all other individuals, an attempt will be made to locate a valid mailing address.
 - If a valid mailing address is located, a notification letter will be sent along with a Blake Cost of Supervision Refund Address Verification form (DOC 06-065). Due to concerns related to identity theft, you will need to verify your identity by completing and returning the form by email, mail or at any Washington State DOC office, along with the required documentation to the COS Unit within 60 days of notice for a refund to be issued. Telephone call verification will not be accepted.

Questions?

✉ docblakecos@doc1.wa.gov

📄 Department of Corrections
Attn: CCD LFO/COS Unit
PO Box 41126
Olympia, WA 98504-1126

🌐 <https://doc.wa.gov/corrections/justice/sentencing/blake-refunds.htm>



Blake Legal Financial Obligations (LFO) Refunds

A **legal financial obligation** is a court-ordered fine or cost paid in connection to a conviction. **Blake Legal Financial Obligations (LFO) Refunds** are refunds of paid fines and fees to the courts on a vacated *Blake* cause. If you have past drug possession convictions, including marijuana, you may be entitled to refunds.

The **Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)** is processing LFO refunds. Your completed Blake Refund Bureau application can be mailed to AOC (must include a copy of government-issued ID) or submitted online via their Blake Refund Portal.

CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN A DOC PRISON OR REENTRY CENTER FACILITY?

You may apply for the refund. If you chose to apply while in a DOC facility, the refund will be eligible for deductions as outlined in DOC Policy 200.000 Trust Accounts for Incarcerated Individuals. See the Blake LFO Refund application and flyer on your tablet for more information.

NOT CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN A DOC PRISON OR REENTRY CENTER FACILITY?

You may apply online at the Blake Refund Portal or print out the paper application and mail it to the address below.

Questions?

📞 360-704-1913

📄 Administrative Office of the Courts
Attn: Blake Refund Program
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA 98504-1170

🌐 www.courts.wa.gov/blakerefund

