

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
June 25, 2015**

IM 5250

TO: County Social Service Directors
Economic Assistance Policy Regional Representatives
Economic Assistance Policy Quality Control Reviewers

FROM: Carol Cartledge, Director, Economic Assistance

SUBJECT: Kinship Care Benefit Increase

PROGRAMS: TANF

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 2015

RETENTION: Until superseded

SECTIONS AFFECTED:

400-19-55-05-35	Disqualifying Transfers of Assets
400-19-105-30	Net Income Eligibility Test
400-19-110-15	TANF Financial Eligibility Determination
400-19-110-20	TANF Benefit Calculation Method
400-19-110-25	Prorate for Initial TANF Benefits and Adding Person
400-19-130-20	Notification of Overpayment
400-19-130-25	Recoupments
400-19-135-45	Disqualification Penalty
400-19-140-10	Eligibility Factors for TANF Kinship Care

Effective July 1, 2015 for the benefit month of August 2015, an additional \$300.00 will be added to the TANF benefit for each TANF Kinship Care case regardless of household size.

For new applications, the \$300.00 will be prorated from the date of application or the date of eligibility, whichever is later.

The VISION system will be enhanced effective July 1, 2015 when determining eligibility for August 2015, to reflect the addition of \$300 in the Kinship Care field of the budget when processing Kinship Care cases.

Kinship Care cases budgeted prospectively or retrospectively beginning with the benefit month of August 2015 will include the additional \$300.00.

Example:

If the Standard of Need for August 2015 is \$166.00, an additional \$300.00 is added to the Kinship Care case, thus, the total benefit is \$466.00.

Example:

If the Standard of Need for August 2015 is \$316.00, an additional \$300.00 is added to the Kinship Care case, thus, the total benefit is \$616.00.

The TANF Benefit Calculator is in the process of being enhanced to reflect the additional \$300.00. Counties will be notified when this has been completed and the updated spreadsheet will be placed on the County Intranet.

The existing TANF Benefit Calculator excel spreadsheet will remain on the County Intranet.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Representative.