

April 1, 2020

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Q1 What is Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)?

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) provides financial assistance and work opportunities to needy families.

Q2 Who is eligible for TANF?

If you are a parent or relative taking care of a child, you and the child may be eligible if the child is:

- Without parental support because of a parent's death, physical or mental disability, age or continued absence from the home; and
- Under age 18 or will graduate from high school by age 19.

You may also be eligible if you are in your third trimester of pregnancy.

Q3 How are TANF benefits determined?

The amount of the benefit is based on the number of eligible household members, income available to the household members, allowable work expenses and childcare expenses, and the current level of payment.

Q4 Are there work requirements under this program?

Yes. Most individuals who receive a TANF benefit are referred to the Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS) program and are required to be involved in work activities that will help them transition off of TANF and become more self-sufficient.

During the state of emergency, individuals will not be required to participate in JOBS. However, we encourage individual to participate as the program can provide support during this emergency.

Q5 Where do I apply for programs and services?

You can apply for the program one of three ways.

- [Apply online](#)
- Print out and complete the [Application for Assistance](#) and return it to your local [County Office](#)
- Contact your local [County Office](#) to have an application mailed to you.

Q6 Whom do I contact if I have questions prior to applying for programs or services?

Please contact your local [County Office](#). Staff can help you complete the application and can answer your questions about assistance programs.

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