



Categorical Eligibility

Alabama

Definition of Minor Child

Minor Children in the Assistance Unit

Temporary Absence of Minor from Home

Non-Parent Caretakers

Eligibility of Pregnant Women

Eligibility of Two-Parent Families

Treatment of Parents of Minor Parents

Other Adults in the Assistance Unit

Definition of Minor Child

To be eligible for TANF cash assistance, families must include a minor child, defined as:

Child under age 18; child age 18 who is a full-time student and will graduate by age 19

Minor Children in the Assistance Unit

All minor children who live in the home and who are full or half siblings are required to be included in the assistance unit, with the following exception:

-- SSI Recipient

When an individual acts as a caretaker of children, some of whom are neither full nor half siblings (for example, the caretaker's own children and a nephew, niece, or grandchild), the caretaker may establish separate assistance units for the non-siblings in her/his care.

Temporary Absence of Minor from Home

There is no specified time limit on the period during which a family can continue to receive assistance for a child who is absent from the home.

Non-Parent Caretakers

(Circumstances under which non-parent caretakers can receive benefits on behalf of a child)

In order to qualify as a non-parent caretaker, an individual must be related to the child(ren) for whom assistance is sought.

Non-parent caretakers are not allowed to be included in the assistance unit.

Eligibility of Pregnant Women

A pregnant woman with no other children is not eligible for assistance.

Eligibility of Two-Parent Families

All two-parent families are eligible for assistance based on the same eligibility criteria as single parent families.

Treatment of Parents of Minor Parents

The grandparent of a child of a minor parent who resides in the same home and receives assistance for another child may be in a separate assistance unit under the following circumstances:

If the minor parent exercises parental guidance and control over the dependent child, then the minor parent and her child can be a separate assistance unit.

Other Adults in the Assistance Unit

(e.g., step-parents, spouses of non-parent caretakers, or single parents' partners)

Adults other than parents or non-parent caretakers are not allowed or required to be in the assistance unit.