



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

District of Columbia

Family Cap

The District does not have a family cap policy.

Minor Teen Parent Living Arrangement

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| Rules Issued | The TANF agency issued rules/guidance. | Y |
| Eligibility of Minors Not Living with Parents | Eligible if living with an adult relative or guardian | Y |
| | Eligible if living with a supervisory adult | Y |
| | Eligible if living independently in an approved arrangement | Y |
| Assessment | The TANF agency assesses minors seeking independent living. | N |
| | The child welfare agency assesses minors seeking independent living. | Y |
| | Community non-profits assess minors seeking independent living. | N |
| | Other: The Family Services Administration assesses teens who have not been involved with Child Welfare. | |

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| | State policy describes circumstances in which adult supervision by non-relatives is appropriate. | Y |
| | If no parent/guardian willing to be responsible for teen | Y |
| | If there is reported abuse/neglect | Y |
| | If there is concern about abuse/neglect | Y |
| | If current caretaker abuses alcohol or drugs | Y |
| | If no permanent housing is available | N |
| | If there is housing overcrowding | N |
| | Other: | |
| | Teen parent is a runaway. Teen parent and parent/relative don't get along and teen cannot live at home. | |
| Assistance in Locating Adult Supervision | State policy establishes what assistance will be provided. | Y |
| | Referral to child welfare | Y |
| | Case management | Y |
| | List of possible "second chance" homes | Y |
| | State-funded cash assistance during assessment period | N |
| Approvable Adult-Supervised Settings | State rules specify which types of adult supervision are allowed. | Y |
| | Group home | N |
| | Group home through the foster care system | Y |
| | With a family through the foster care system | Y |
| | With an adult non-relative | Y |
| "Best Interest" Exemption | State policy defines when it is in the "best interest" of the minor to make an exception to the adult supervision rule. | Y |
| | No supervised living slot available | N |
| | Minor is successfully living on own | Y |
| | Minor is about to turn 18 | N |
| | State policy requires agency interaction with minor parents living independently. | N |

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| Payments | The state automatically considers a minor teen parent living in an adult-supervised setting a "head of household." | N |
| | When minor parents receive their own assistance, the cash grant is given to: | |
| | The teen directly | Y |
| | The parent | N |
| | A supervisory adult | N |
| State Data | The number of minor parent recipients is collected. | Y |
| | The number of minor parent recipients is reported. | Y |
| | Latest total number: 86 | |
| | for 2/98 | |
| | A separate number is reported for those "embedded" or "nested" within adult households. | N |
| | A separate number is reported for those who head households. | Y |
| | Latest number of "heads": 86 | |
| | A separate number is reported for minors ineligible due to TANF living arrangement rule. | N |
| | The state estimates the need for adult supervised settings. | Y |
| | The state reports the number of minor parents by living arrangement type. | N |
| | The state tracks reasons minor parents are not living with a parent, guardian, or adult. | N |
| Funding | The state created a state-funded program for teens denied TANF. | N |
| | Since 1996, the state uses federal sources to fund "second chance" homes. | N |
| Interagency Collaboration | Child Welfare Agency | |
| | Limited to assisting only those documented as abused or neglected | Y |
| | Has a waiting list for placements | Y |
| | Allows placement of minor mother and child in the same foster home | Y |

Estimates these joint placements occur:

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| More than 50% of the time | Y |
| Between 25 and 50% of the time | N |
| Between 5 and 25% of the time | N |
| Less than 5% of the time | N |

Housing Agency

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| State housing agency/local authority has been engaged in discussions regarding the living arrangement policy. | N |
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| Evaluation | The living arrangement provision is being/will be evaluated. | N |
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School/Training Participation Rules

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| Participation Required of Teen Parents | A school/training requirement applies to all single and married teen parents under age: 18 | Y |
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| Participation Required of Students Who Are Not Parents | A school/training requirement applies to non-parents who are: | Y |
| | Elementary school students | N |
| | Middle school students | N |
| | High school/equivalent students up to age: 17 | Y |

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| How Participation is Measured | School attendance | Y |
| | Grades in class work | N |
| | Completion of the current grade | N |

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| Sanctions | Teen parents and non-parents are subject to the same sanction for non-compliance with school attendance requirement. | N |
| | The first sanction for teen parents is: | |
| | A reduction in the family's grant: | Y |
| | Parenting teen's share of the grant | |

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| | Elimination of the family's grant | N |
| | Vendor payments for rent and utilities | N |
| | The duration of the first sanction is: | |
| | One month or until compliance, whichever is longer | N |
| | Until compliance (no minimum length) | Y |
| | The sanction escalates for subsequent infractions. | N |
| | When a family might be subject to the sanction, state policy requires integrated case management between the TANF and child welfare agencies: | N |
| Bonuses | Teen parents receive a monetary bonus for: | |
| | School enrollment | N |
| | School attendance | N |
| | Each grade completed | N |
| | GED completion | N |
| | Graduation | N |
| Exemptions for Teen Parents | Teen parents can be exempted from the school/training requirements under the following circumstances: | |
| | Married | Y |
| | Employed full-time | N |
| | Caring for a young child | Y |
| | Caring for a disabled child | N |
| | Expelled from school | N |
| | Over a specified age | N |
| | In need of an alternative program that is not available | N |
| | Necessary child care or transportation not available | Y |
| | Other: | |
| | There is no space available within reasonable time and distance from pregnant or parenting teen's home. | |

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| Alternative Education Placement for Minor Teen Parents | For minor parents not participating in school/training, eligibility criteria for alternative placements have been established. | N |
| | The state has established a policy regarding assessment of the need for an alternative placement. | N |
| Teen Parent Case Management | The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement. | N |
| | Special case management "retrieves" dropouts for participation in alternative activities. | N |
| Prioritizing Teen Parents for Services | Teen parents meeting TANF school/training requirement receive priority for: | |
| | Child care assistance | N |
| | Transportation assistance | N |
| | Specialized case management | N |
| State Education Agency Role | State policy indicates the state education agency's role regarding the TANF school/training requirement. | Y |
| | The state education agency has been actively involved in: | |
| | Determining what is being measured (i.e., attendance) | N |
| | Designing procedures for reaching dropouts | N |
| | Assessing students for alternative placements | N |
| | Designing new alternative placements | N |

Abstinence Education Program

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| State Match | Funds counted towards the state match for abstinence education include: | |
| | Existing state funds: | |
| | Existing abstinence-only, state funded school education | Y |

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| | programs | |
| | Existing state-funded abstinence media campaigns | N |
| | Other existing state-funded programs: | N |
| | New state funds: | N |
| | In-kind support: | Y |
| | Staff/personal time | |
| | Local support: | Y |
| State Grant Process | The state's design of its grants program included: | |
| | Creation of a state officials/citizen advisory group | Y |
| | Issuance of an RFP for local program administration | N |
| | Issuance of an RFP for statewide abstinence-only activities | N |
| | Utilization of a scale to weigh competing proposals | N |
| | Memorandum of Agreement with state education agency | N |
| | Memorandum of Agreement with state health agency | N |
| Funded Activities | State policy identifies activities that are ineligible for abstinence education funding. | N |
| Funded Groups | State allows abstinence education funding to be awarded to: | |
| | Organizations that provide "abstinence plus" education or other reproductive health information through other funding | N |
| | Religious organizations | N |
| Monitoring/Evaluation | The state expects to conduct an evaluation of activities funded by the abstinence education block grant. | Y |
| | The evaluation will be conducted by: | |
| | State health agency | Y |
| | State academic institution | N |
| | Other: | |
| | Outside evaluators/consultants | |
| | The state will require grantees to evaluate their projects. | Y |

Answer Key:

Y = Yes

-- = Not answered

N = No

Y* = Not answered; policy inferred from other survey answers

N/A = Not applicable