



Categorical Eligibility

Florida

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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 (does not include anyone who is married or divorced)

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 exceptions:

- SSI Recipient
- Child excluded under a family cap policy
- Child receiving adoption assistance

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

A family can continue to receive assistance for a child who is absent from the home for a period not to exceed: 30 days

The allowable period can be extended under the following circumstances:
Child receiving treatment in a facility, provided that the parent retains parental control of the child and provides direction regarding child's daily needs.

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 have the option of choosing to be included in the assistance unit if they wish to be.

Eligibility of Pregnant Women

A pregnant woman with no other children is eligible for assistance, beginning:
During the last trimester if a doctor determines she is unable to perform work activities (always eligible in ninth month)

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 is required to be in the same assistance unit with the minor parent and child if the grandparent resides in the same home and receives assistance.

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 required to be included in the assistance unit as follows:

Stepparents with mutual children or with income of at least 185 percent of FPL for a family of two

Other adults who are not parents or non-parent caretakers are not allowed to be in the assistance unit.