



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

Illinois

Family Cap

Benefits to Family with Excluded Child	The traditional incremental cash increase is denied.	Y
	The traditional incremental cash increase is reduced.	N
	The benefit for the child is in the form of vouchers.	N
	The benefit for the child is in the form of a third party payment.	N
Exemptions from the Family Cap	A child may be exempt from the family cap if:	
	Born less than 10 months after case opened	N
	First-born child of minor TANF parent	Y
	Conceived between spells of assistance	N
	Conceived as a result of rape or incest	Y
	Not living with biological parent	N
	Conceived as a result of failed contraception	N
	Eligible for state's family violence option	N
	Other(s): Child of a woman pregnant at the time of application who became eligible for aid during the pregnancy; child conceived after family ineligible for assistance due to marriage or income and off aid for 3 months; child subject to family cap, then family off aid for 9 months	

Different Treatment of "Capped" Families	A parent with a "capped" child is required to work when that child is younger compared to a parent with a non-capped child.	N
	A family with a "capped" child retains more income from earnings.	N
	A family retains more of the child support collected on behalf of a "capped " child.	N
	A family with a "capped" child is referred to family planning services.	N

Minor Teen Parent Living Arrangement

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.	Y
	TANF staff are trained in assessment.	Y
	The child welfare agency assesses minors seeking independent living.	N
	Community non-profits assess minors seeking independent living.	N
	State policy describes circumstances in which adult supervision by non-relatives is appropriate.	Y
	If no parent/guardian willing to be responsible for teen	N
	If there is reported abuse/neglect	N
	If there is concern about abuse/neglect	N
	If current caretaker abuses alcohol or drugs	N
	If no permanent housing is available	N
	If there is housing overcrowding	N
	Other:	

The teen chooses the living arrangement (parent, relative, guardian, supervised arrangement), and the caseworker is forbidden to ask her to justify it.

Assistance in Locating Adult Supervision	State policy establishes what assistance will be provided. Other: State policy does not define how assistance is to be provided; local agencies determine their own approaches.	N
Approvable Adult-Supervised Settings	State rules specify which types of adult supervision are allowed. Group home Group home through the foster care system With a family through the foster care system With an adult non-relative	Y Y Y N N
“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. No supervised living slot available Minor is successfully living on own Minor is about to turn 18 Other: No parent or legal guardian allows the minor to live in his or her home; minor lived independently for one year prior to child being born or applying for aid; physical or mental health of teen or her child would be jeopardized by living with parent or guardian; and other good cause, including: parent or guardian lives out of state, parent or guardian in an institution, parent or guardian is substance abuser, teen and child returning to home of parent or guardian would cause lease or local health and safety standards to be violated, minor parent placed in independent living by child welfare agency, and minor parent is in licensed substance abuse program State policy requires agency interaction with minor parents living independently, as follows:	Y Y N N Y

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	--
	Has a waiting list for placements	--
	Allows placement of minor mother and child in the same foster home	--
	Estimates these joint placements occur:	
	More than 50% of the time	--
	Between 25 and 50% of the time	--
	Between 5 and 25% of the time	--
	Less than 5% of the time	--
	Housing Agency	
	State housing agency/local authority has been engaged in discussions regarding the living arrangement policy.	--
Evaluation	The living arrangement provision is being/will be evaluated.	N

School/Training Participation Rules

Participation Required of Teen Parents	A school/training requirement applies to all single and married teen parents under age: 20	Y
Participation Required of Students Who Are Not Parents	A school/training requirement applies to non-parents who are:	Y
	Elementary school students	Y
	Middle school students	Y
	High school/equivalent students up to age:	N

How Participation is Measured	School attendance	Y
	Grades in class work	N
	Completion of the current grade	N
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: 50%	Y
	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
	The sanction escalates for subsequent infractions.	Y
	2nd sanction is a 50% reduction for three months. Noncompliance after three months results in case termination. Third and additional instances, full grant sanction for three months, with reinstatement in fourth month if cooperating by then.	
	Until compliance (no minimum length)	Y
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	N
Employed full-time	N
Caring for a child under age 12 weeks	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	N
Other:	
18 and 19 year olds may be assigned to work activities or alternative education if assessment shows regular secondary school inappropriate.	

Alternative Education
Placement for Minor Teen
Parents

For minor parents not participating in school/training, eligibility criteria for alternative placements have been established.	Y
Based upon family assessment.	
Approvable alternative placements:	
Mentoring programs	Y
Youth employment training	Y
Others:	
Virtually the same array of activities provided for adults, except that the overriding goal is to achieve a diploma or GED in addition to whatever else the teen does.	
State policy requires assessment of the need for an alternative placement for:	
Any individual having difficulty meeting the standard	Y
Any individual who has already dropped out	Y

Teen Parent Case Management	The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement. Case management is provided.	Y
	Prior to sanctioning	Y
	Special case management "retrieves" dropouts for participation in alternative activities.	Y
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.	N
	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

State Match	Funds counted towards the state match for abstinence education include:	
	Existing state funds:	
	Existing abstinence-only, state funded school education programs	N
	Existing state-funded abstinence media campaigns	N
	Other existing state-funded programs:	N

	New state funds:	N
	In-kind support:	N
	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	Y
	Issuance of an RFP for statewide abstinence-only activities	N
	Utilization of a scale to weigh competing proposals	Y
	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.	Y
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	Y
	Religious organizations	Y
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	N
	State academic institution	N
	The state will require grantees to evaluate their projects.	N

Answer Key:

Y = Yes

-- = Not answered

N = No

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

N/A = Not applicable