



Categorical Eligibility

Minnesota

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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 a parent)

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
- Foster child
- 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 must establish a single assistance unit for all children 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: 180 days

There are no circumstances under which the allowable period can be extended.

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 need not be related to the child(ren) for whom assistance is sought. In addition to relatives, the following non-relative adults can receive assistance for a child:

- A legal custodian, who is an individual legally obligated to provide care for a minor and is doing so; a stepparent

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:
First 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 who resides in the same home and receives assistance for another child may be in a separate assistance unit under the following circumstances:

When no other minor child is living in home (If grandparent and other minor child are on assistance, then minor child is in their assistance unit and minor child's child is in 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 required to be included in the assistance unit as follows:

Stepparent; spouse of pregnant woman

Adults other than parents or non-parent caretakers are allowed to be in the assistance unit at family option as follows:

Caregivers, including legal custodians and spouses of all listed relatives including those no longer married to the relative/steprelative