



# Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

## Minnesota

### Family Cap

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The state 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
	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	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
Assistance in Locating Adult Supervision	State policy establishes what assistance will be provided.	Y
	Referral to child welfare	Y
	Case management	N
	State-funded cash assistance during assessment period	N
	Other:	
	Referral to child protection services where worker has reason to suspect the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent or child would be jeopardized; social services referral for development of employability plan	
Approvable Adult-Supervised Settings	State rules specify which types of adult supervision are allowed.	Y
	Group home	Y
	Group home through the foster care system	Y
	With a family through the foster care system	Y
	With an adult non-relative	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.	Y
	No supervised living slot available	Y
	List of possible "second chance" homes	N
	Minor is successfully living on own	N
	Minor is about to turn 18	N
	Other:	
	There is no living parent, other adult relative, or legal guardian whose whereabouts are known; no parent, adult relative, or legal guardian allows the minor parent live in the home; the minor parent has lived apart from his/her parent or legal guardian for at least one year before either application or the birth of the child; the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent or child would be jeopardized if they lived with	

	the minor parent's parent, relative, or guardian; an adult supervised supportive living arrangement isn't available in the county where the minor parent resides	
	State policy requires agency interaction with minor parents living independently, as follows:	Y
	Specialized case management	Y
	Minor must report to TANF or other agency	Y
	Required of all minor parents.	
Payments	The state automatically considers a minor teen parent living in an adult-supervised setting a "head of household."	Y
	When minor parents receive their own assistance, the cash grant is given to:	
	The teen directly	N
	The parent	N
	A supervisory adult	N
	Other:	
	Protective payment, where possible, to other adult relative or to the adult supervised supportive living arrangement. Otherwise, given to minor parent as regular grant.	
State Data	The number of minor parent recipients is collected.	N
	The number of minor parent recipients is reported.	--
	A separate number is reported for those "embedded" or "nested" within adult households.	N
	A separate number is reported for those who head households.	N
	A separate number is reported for minors ineligible due to TANF living arrangement rule.	N
	The state estimates the need for adult supervised settings.	N
	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

Not specially, but teens may benefit from some transitional housing programs for homeless youth. State and federal funds are used for these. There are very few adult-supervised living arrangements in the state.

Interagency  
Collaboration

Child Welfare Agency

Limited to assisting only those documented as abused or neglected N

Has a waiting list for placements --

Allows placement of minor mother and child in the same foster home Y

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. N

Teen parent living arrangement discussed as part of overall housing discussions.

Evaluation

The living arrangement provision is being/will be evaluated. N

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### 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	The state requires school/training of students who are not parents.	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/A
	The first sanction for teen parents is:	
	A reduction in the family's grant: 10% combined food stamps and cash (in cash).	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	Y
	Until compliance (no minimum length)	N
	The sanction escalates for subsequent infractions.	Y
	2nd and subsequent sanctions are 30% of combined food stamps and cash (after rent and, at county option, after utilities are paid).	
When a family might be subject to the sanction, state policy requires integrated case management between the TANF and child welfare agencies:	Y	
For minor teen parents receiving TANF		
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 6 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	Y
Necessary child care or transportation not available	Y

Other:

Caregiver is ill or incapacitated seriously enough to prevent school attendance; caregiver is needed in home because of the illness or incapacity of another member of the household

Alternative Education Placement for Minor Teen Parents

For minor parents not participating in school/training, eligibility criteria for alternative placements have been established. Y

Statute allows most appropriate educational option; if there isn't an appropriate educational option, minors are referred for a social services plan (which can contain a variety of activities).

Approvable alternative placements:

Mentoring programs	Y
Youth employment training	Y

Others:

Social services or employment plans which can contain a variety of activities

State policy requires assessment of the need for an alternative placement for:

Any individual having difficulty meeting the standard	N
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	Any individual who has already dropped out	N
	Others:	
	Any caregiver under age 20 who has not obtained a high school diploma or equivalent and is not exempt from school attendance requirements.	
	Criteria for determining the need for an alternative placement are set by:	
	State welfare agency	Y
Teen Parent Case Management	The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement.	N
	Case management is provided.	
	Prior to sanctioning	Y
	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	Y
	Only to the extent that developing a plan with social services is limited to minor parents	
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

State Match	<p>Funds counted towards the state match for abstinence education include:</p> <p>Existing state funds:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Existing abstinence-only, state funded school education programs <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Existing state-funded abstinence media campaigns <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Other existing state-funded programs: <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p>New state funds: <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p>In-kind support: <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p>Local support: <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p>Other:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Funding from Minnesota's state funded abstinence education program. These funds will be used to conduct a statewide media campaign.</p>
State Grant Process	<p>The state's design of its grants program included:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Creation of a state officials/citizen advisory group <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Issuance of an RFP for local program administration <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Issuance of an RFP for statewide abstinence-only activities <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Utilization of a scale to weigh competing proposals <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Memorandum of Agreement with state education agency <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Memorandum of Agreement with state health agency <span style="float: right;">N</span></p> <p>Other:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Grant application review process which included interested parties with experience in adolescent pregnancy prevention.</p>
Funded Activities	<p>State policy identifies activities that are ineligible for abstinence education funding. <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Activities need to follow established criteria.</p>
Funded Groups	<p>State allows abstinence education funding to be awarded to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Organizations that provide "abstinence plus" education or other reproductive health information through other funding <span style="float: right;">Y</span></p>

	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
	Other:	
	Independent evaluator hired through RFP process.	
	The state will require grantees to evaluate their projects.	Y

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Answer Key:

Y = Yes

-- = Not answered

N = No

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

N/A = Not applicable