



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

Missouri

Family Cap

The state does not have a family cap policy.

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.	N
	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	Y
	If there is reported abuse/neglect	Y
	If there is concern about abuse/neglect	Y
	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	Y
	List of possible "second chance" homes	Y
	State-funded cash assistance during assessment period	Y
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	N
	With a family through the foster care system	N
	With an adult non-relative	N
	Other: A private family setting or other living arrangement (not including a public institution), which is maintained as a family.	
"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	N
	Minor is about to turn 18	N
	Other: Minor parent has no parent or legal guardian who is	

living or the whereabouts of the parent of guardian is unknown; no living parent or legal guardian of the minor parent allows the minor parent to live in his/her home; the Division of Family Services determines that the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent of dependent child would be jeopardized; the minor parent lived apart from any parent or legal guardian for a period of at least one year prior to the birth of the dependent child or applying for benefits; there is otherwise good cause for the minor parent and dependent child to receive assistance while living apart from a parent or adult relative or in a adult supervised supportive living arrangement.

State policy requires agency interaction with minor parents living independently. N

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: 4,256
for 12/97

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": 4,256

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
Interagency Collaboration	Child Welfare Agency	
	Limited to assisting only those documented as abused or neglected	Y
	Has a waiting list for placements	N
	Allows placement of minor mother and child in the same foster home	Y
	Estimates these joint placements occur:	
	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	
	State housing agency/local authority has been engaged in discussions regarding the living arrangement policy.	N
Evaluation	The living arrangement provision is being/will be evaluated.	Y
	The evaluation is funded by:	
	The state	

School/Training Participation Rules

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

	Middle school students	N
	High school/equivalent students up to age: 18	Y
How Participation is Measured	School attendance	Y
	Grades in class work	N
	Completion of the current grade	Y
Sanctions	Teen parents and non-parents are subject to the same sanction for non-compliance with school attendance requirement.	Y
	The first sanction for teen parents is:	
	A reduction in the family's grant:	Y
	Teen parent removed from the grant	
	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.	Y
	2nd sanction lasts a minimum of 3 months, 3rd and subsequent sanctions last a minimum of 6 months.	
	When a family might be subject to the sanction, state policy requires integrated case management between the TANF and child welfare agencies:	N
	Other TANF/child welfare coordination:	
	Local offices coordinate activities between child welfare and temporary assistance.	
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	Y
Caring for a young child	N
Caring for a disabled child	Y
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:	
Second or third trimester of pregnancy; lives in a remote area; under age 16	

Alternative Education
Placement for Minor Teen
Parents

For minor parents not participating in school/training, eligibility criteria for alternative placements have been established.	N
Approvable alternative placements:	
Mentoring programs	Y
Youth employment training	Y
State policy requires assessment of the need for an alternative placement for:	
Any individual having difficulty meeting the standard	N
Any individual who has already dropped out	N

Teen Parent Case
Management

The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement.	Y
Case management is provided.	
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

Other:

The state establishes automatic eligibility for many of these services, but does not establish priority for teen parents. Other support services may include, but are not limited to, drug and alcohol abuse organizations, crisis centers, shelters, utility assistance programs, counseling, health care information, housing and legal aid.

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

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: Y

Allowable as match if adequately documented

	Local support: Allowable if able to document portion of funding that is clearly abstinence-only education	Y
	Other: Foundation funding, private donations	
State Grant Process	The state's design of its grants program included:	
	Creation of a state officials/citizen advisory group	N
	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	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. Only eligible activities are abstinence-only educational	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	Y
	Religious organizations	Y
Monitoring/Evaluation	The state expects to conduct an evaluation of activities funded by the abstinence education block grant. The evaluation will be conducted by:	Y
	State health agency	N
	State academic institution	Y
	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