



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

Montana

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.	N
	The child welfare agency assesses minors seeking independent living.	N
	Community non-profits assess minors seeking independent living.	N
	Other: Community Welfare Reform Advisory Council	
	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	Y
	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	N
	List of possible "second chance" homes	N
	State-funded cash assistance during assessment period	N
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: An adult supervised setting is defined as a maternity home providing particular services. There is only one such facility in Montana. Also, one may live in a "residential facility". Other circumstances may be determined to be acceptable.	
"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
	Case management	Y
	No supervised living slot available	Y
	Minor is successfully living on own	N
	Minor is about to turn 18	N
	Other: No available adult supervised slot; concern about or reported abuse/neglect by current caretaker; alcohol/drug abuse by current caretaker; no caretaker willing to be responsible for the minor	

	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	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	Y
	A supervisory adult	Y
	Other:	
	The grant may--but does not always--go directly to a teen living with a non-parent adult. For a teen living with a parent, the grant goes to the parent.	
State Data	The number of minor parent recipients is collected.	Y
	The number of minor parent recipients is reported.	Y
	Latest total number: Not provided	
	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

Interagency Collaboration	Child Welfare Agency	Limited to assisting only those documented as abused or neglected	N
		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	N
		Between 25 and 50% of the time	Y
		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.	N

School/Training Participation Rules

Participation Required of Teen Parents	A school/training requirement applies to all single and married teen parents under age: 19	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:	Y
	Teen parent's share of 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	Y
	Until compliance (no minimum length)	N
	The sanction escalates for subsequent infractions.	Y
	2nd sanction lasts 3 months; 3rd sanction lasts 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
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
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	N
	Youth employment training	Y
	Others:	
	Teen parents can work out alternative activities with their caseworker	
	The state has established a policy regarding assessment of the need for an alternative placement.	N
Teen Parent Case Management	The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement.	N
	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	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	<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</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Existing state-funded abstinence media campaigns</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Other existing state-funded programs:</p> <p>New state funds:</p> <p>In-kind support:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Advisory council members, other state officials, and intern time</p> <p>Local support:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Participating communities will be required to provide local matching funds to help underwrite the costs of "Assets for Abstinence" training. Costs can include local community training registrations, stipends for trainers and peer education in three local communities chosen for the first/second year of the project, grants from community organizations, in-kind services and trainers.</p> <p>Other:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">County overmatch to the MCH Block Grant was identified.</p>	<p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</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</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Issuance of an RFP for local program administration</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Issuance of an RFP for statewide abstinence-only activities</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Utilization of a scale to weigh competing proposals</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Memorandum of Agreement with state education agency</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Memorandum of Agreement with state health agency</p> <p>Other:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">The state publicized the availability of the abstinence grant through meetings, telephone communication and written communication inviting input and project design recommendations from health providers, abstinence educators, Montana clergy, and others who had contacted our office.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p>

Funded Activities	State policy identifies activities that are ineligible for abstinence education funding.	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	N
	Religious organizations	N
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	Y
	State academic institution	N
	Other:	
	Independent evaluator, to be determined.	
	The state will require grantees to evaluate their projects.	--

Answer Key:

Y = Yes

-- = Not answered

N = No

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

N/A = Not applicable