



# **Categorical Eligibility**

## **North Dakota**

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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

### **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
- Not dependent (e.g., not deprived of parental support)

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: One month

The allowable period can be extended under the following circumstances:  
Child residing at the Perry Center; receiving speech or physical therapy at Camp Grassick in the summer; hospitalized; temporarily attending school in another North Dakota community

### **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 must be related to the child(ren) for whom assistance is sought.

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:  
Sixth month

### **Eligibility of Two-Parent Families**

Two-parent families can be eligible to receive assistance only if one parent is incapacitated.

### **Treatment of Parents of Minor Parents**

The grandparent of a child of a minor parent is required to be in the same assistance unit with the minor parent and child if the grandparent resides in the same home and receives assistance.

### **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:

If family wishes to receive the fuel assistance (LIHEAP) component of TEEM, all members of the household must be included. Any added members are counted for purposes of the fuel assistance component but not for cash assistance. Other adults do not have to be in the assistance unit if the family does not seek fuel assistance. (Households including any member seeking non-TEEM fuel assistance are not eligible for TEEM cash assistance.)

Other adults who are not parents or non-parent caretakers are not allowed to be in the assistance unit.