



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

Tennessee

Family Cap

Benefits to Family with Excluded Child	The traditional incremental cash increase is denied.	Y
	The traditional incremental cash increase is reduced.	N
	The benefit for the child is in the form of vouchers.	N
	The benefit for the child is in the form of a third party payment.	N
Exemptions from the Family Cap	A child may be exempt from the family cap if:	
	Born less than 10 months after case opened	Y
	First-born child of minor TANF parent	Y
	Conceived between spells of assistance	Y
	Conceived as a result of rape or incest	Y
	Conceived as a result of failed contraception	N
	Not living with biological parent	N
	Eligible for state's family violence option	N
Other(s): If a family loses eligibility for any reason other than a sanction or deliberate action the child is eligible for any subsequent period of eligibility.		
Different Treatment of "Capped" Families	A parent with a "capped" child is required to work when that child is younger compared to a parent with a non-capped child.	N

A family with a "capped" child retains more income from earnings.	N
A family retains more of the child support collected on behalf of a "capped " child.	N
A family with a "capped" child is referred to family planning services.	N

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	N
	If there is concern about abuse/neglect	N
	If current caretaker abuses alcohol or drugs	Y
	If no permanent housing is available	N
If there is housing overcrowding	Y	
Other:		
	No parent, and other relative or legal guardian's whereabouts are unknown; the Department determines after investigation that there is good cause for the	

separate living arrangement and the health or safety of the applicant or the dependent children would be jeopardized.

Assistance in Locating Adult Supervision	State policy establishes what assistance will be provided.	N
Approvable Adult-Supervised Settings	State rules specify which types of adult supervision are allowed.	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	N
	Minor is successfully living on own	N
	Minor is about to turn 18	N
	Other:	
	No caretaker is willing to be responsible for the minor parent; housing overcrowding; caretaker abuses drugs/alcohol. The Department determines after investigation that there is good cause for the separate living arrangement and the health or safety of the applicant or the dependent children would be jeopardized	
	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.	N
	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.	Y
	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.	Y
	The state reports on reasons for living independently.	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	--
	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
	Perhaps at the local level there have been some discussions.	
Evaluation	The living arrangement provision is being/will be evaluated.	Y
	The evaluation is funded by:	
	Contracted with an independent evaluator, University of Memphis	

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:	Y
	Elementary school students	Y
	Middle school students	Y
	High school/equivalent students up to age: 17	Y
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
	The first sanction for teen parents is:	
	A reduction in the family's grant:	Y
	Unmarried minor parent removed from cash payment; reduction for married minor parent is 20%.	
	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
	Subsequent sanctions are imposed for a minimum of 3 months. The 20% sanction until compliance for married minors does not escalate for subsequent infractions.	
	When a family might be subject to the sanction, state policy requires integrated case management between the TANF and child welfare agencies:	N

Bonuses	<p>Teen parents receive a monetary bonus for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School enrollment N School attendance N Each grade completed N GED completion N Graduation N
Exemptions for Teen Parents	<p>Teen parents can be exempted from the school/training requirements under the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Married N Employed full-time N Caring for a child under age 4 months Y Caring for a disabled child Y Expelled from school Y 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal by the courts or other verified situations which prevent attendance.
Alternative Education Placement for Minor Teen Parents	<p>For minor parents not participating in school/training, eligibility criteria for alternative placements have been established. N</p> <p>The state has established a policy regarding assessment of the need for an alternative placement. N</p>
Teen Parent Case Management	<p>The state spent additional funds to add case management for teen parents subject to TANF school/training requirement. N</p> <p>Special case management "retrieves" dropouts for participation in alternative activities. N</p>

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) Y
- 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:

Y
State dollars not used in other non-MCH programs
were re-assigned to MCH as the match for the
abstinence education program. The state is putting up
1/2 of the \$3.00 required. Funded projects must
provide the remainder in cash or in-kind.

New state funds: N

In-kind support:

Y
The match requirement from community based funded

projects (1/2 of the required \$3.00) can be either in-kind or local dollars.

Local support: Y

State Grant Process	The state's design of its grants program included:	
	Creation of a state officials/citizen advisory group	Y
	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	Y
	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.	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	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