



Reproductive Health and TANF Teens and TANF

West Virginia

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	N
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	Y
	If there is housing overcrowding	N
	There is no parent whose whereabouts are known, the minor parent lived apart from the parent for at least one year before the birth of the child or the TANF application. Other circumstances could be argued to fall within the "good cause" exception.	
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.	Y
	Group home	Y
	Group home through the foster care system	N
	With a family through the foster care system	N
	With an adult non-relative	Y
	Other:	
	Live with a non-relative adult who does not receive TANF; who is a same sex adult or married couple; who is a least 15 years older than the minor parent; who does not have a Protective Services record; and who has no criminal record.	
"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.	N
	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."	Y

	When minor parents receive their own assistance, the cash grant is given to:	
	The teen directly	N
	The parent	Y
	A supervisory adult	Y
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
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	--
	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

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 teen parents under age: 18 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 Y
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: 1/3 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 N

	Until compliance (no minimum length)	N
	Other: 3 months, unless individual complies within first ten days of sanction.	
	The sanction escalates for subsequent infractions. 2nd sanction is a two thirds reduction for 3 months; 3rd sanction is termination of benefits for a minimum of 6 months.	Y
	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	Y
	Employed full-time	N
	Caring for a child under age 12 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	N
	Necessary child care or transportation not available	N
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 must be placed in an alternative setting.	Y
	Others:	
	Adult Basic Education classes or alternative schools approved by the Service Coordinator.	
	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.	--
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.	Y
	The state education agency has been actively involved in:	
	Determining what is being measured (i.e., attendance)	N
	Designing procedures for reaching dropouts	Y
	Assessing students for alternative placements	Y
	Designing new alternative placements	Y

Abstinence Education Program

State Match	<p>Funds counted towards the state match for abstinence education include:</p> <p>Existing state funds:</p> <p>Existing abstinence-only, state funded school education programs</p> <p>Existing state-funded abstinence media campaigns</p> <p>Other existing state-funded programs:</p> <p>New state funds:</p> <p>In-kind support:</p> <p>Local support:</p> <p>A local church has donated space to accommodate the abstinence coordinator. The Catholic Diocese has donated in-kind support and other church, civic and community organizations are anticipated to behave similarly.</p>	<p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>Y</p>
State Grant Process	<p>The state's design of its grants program included:</p> <p>Creation of a state officials/citizen advisory group</p> <p>Issuance of an RFP for local program administration</p> <p>Issuance of an RFP for statewide abstinence-only activities</p> <p>Utilization of a scale to weigh competing proposals</p> <p>Memorandum of Agreement with state education agency</p> <p>Memorandum of Agreement with state health agency</p> <p>Other:</p> <p>Each entity providing in-kind money will sign a memorandum of understanding with MCH, indicating their understanding/support of principles of abstinence as outlined in federal statute.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p> <p>Y</p>
Funded Activities	<p>State policy identifies activities that are ineligible for abstinence education funding.</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding specifies that the curriculum selected by the Advisory Committee and purchased by the state will be used in community level teaching. Prohibitions specific to church-state issues are referenced in the MOU.</p>	<p>Y</p>
Funded Groups	<p>State allows abstinence education funding to be awarded to:</p>	

	Organizations that provide "abstinence plus" education or other reproductive health information through other funding	N
	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	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