



The TANF Child Care Protection: Families Covered

As of October 1999

Note: Federal law prohibits states from reducing or terminating cash assistance benefits for single custodial parents with children under age six when a parent's refusal to work is based on a demonstrated inability to obtain necessary child care. States may choose to extend this protection to additional categories of families and ages of children. Such state extensions beyond the federal minimum may be enforced by the state, but violations would not trigger the federal penalty.

The TANF child care protection is extended to:

State	Federal Minimum Requirement Only	Single custodial parents with children up to and including age:	Two-parent families with children up to and including age:	Non-parent Caretakers with children up to and including age:	Other Categories/Comments:
Totals	20 States	23 Up to age 5 24 Up to age 12 1 Up to age 13 1 Up to age 10 1 Up to age 6 1 No age specified	13 States	9 States	14 States: Families with special needs or disabled children*
Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with disabled children up to age 18
Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arizona	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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California	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Colorado	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delaware	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with disabled children up to age 18
Dist of Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with disabled children up to age 18
Florida	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Georgia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause may be granted for any applicant or recipient who demonstrates inability to find child care
Hawaii	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Idaho	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families who need child care (age of child not specified) in order to work or participate in work related activities and such care is not available and the agency fails to provide such care. Up to age 18 for children with disabilities or behavior problems, in some cases.
Kentucky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Louisiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Maine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause may be granted to all families unable to find needed child care
Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with a "breakdown in child care or lack" thereof; no age specified.
Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with disabled children up to age 18
Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with children who are physically or mentally incapable of caring for themselves or under court supervision, and are up to age 18
Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with disabled children up to age 14. Good cause provision not age-restricted

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Mississippi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause process available to other types of families
Missouri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single custodial parents with a child over age 5 when extenuating circumstances exist
Montana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with children up to age 18 for children with special needs.
Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause may be granted for failing or refusing to participate in work activities if there is an unavailability or a breakdown in child care arrangements.
Nevada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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New Hampshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause for families with children up to 12 or up to 18 for children with disabilities
New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause up to age 12; disabled children up to age 18
New Mexico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with medically fragile children
New York	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Dakota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ohio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause may be extended to older children at county discretion
Oklahoma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Oregon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good cause may be granted by caseworkers to parents or caretaker relatives with children up to age 12 under the state's waiver
Pennsylvania	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single custodial parents with special needs children over the age of five
Rhode Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Carolina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Dakota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Texas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None specified	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Vermont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virginia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Washington	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-parent families must have one parent working to qualify.
West Virginia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with children with a life-threatening illness or special needs
Wisconsin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wyoming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families with children up to age 18 if disabled or under court supervision

 *Note that several states indicated the TANF child care protection is extended to certain families with children under age 18 with special needs, a disability, or those who are under court supervision. SPDP did not systematically collect this information from all states, therefore where a state does not explicitly note such a protection extension it does not necessarily indicate that such an extension does not exist in state policy.