

The following applicants and recipients are exempt under District law from participation in work-related activities:

- a minor who is not the head of an assistance unit;
- a single custodial parent or caretaker who personally provides care for a child under six years of age, who cannot obtain needed appropriate childcare because it is unaffordable or not within reasonable distance of parent or caretaker's home or work activity;
- a single custodial parent with a child under 12 months of age;
- a recipient 60 years old or older;
- a parent or caretaker in a two-parent or caretaker household who is not a primary wage earner (if the household is eligible for TANF because of primary wage earner's unemployment) and who is personally taking care of a child under six years of age, if the parent or caretaker cannot obtain needed childcare because it is unaffordable or not within reasonable distance of parent or caretaker's home;
- a person who is ill, injured or incapacitated as determined by competent medical evidence;
- a person who is needed at home because another household member requires the individual's presence due to illness or injury;
- a woman who is verifiably expected to deliver within four months;
- a person in a one-parent household who is working for an average of 30 hours per week;
- persons in a two-parent household who are working for a combined total average of at least 35 hours per week; or persons in a two-parent household where the family receives federally-funded child care and no parent in the family is disabled, or caring for a child with a disability, who are working a combined total of at least 55 hours per week;
- a full-time VISTA or Americorps volunteer; and
- a person who is granted a domestic violence waiver because accepting the work requirement would put the applicant/recipient at further risk of violence.

Any applicant/recipient who is exempt from work participation may voluntarily participate. If he or she volunteers and then fails to participate without good cause and for a reason unrelated to his or her qualification for an exemption, the individual is subject to sanction.

In addition to funding basic cash assistance and work-related programs for TANF recipients, the District uses or intends to use federal TANF funds for the following activities:

- **Literacy Services** - The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide literacy services to low-income parents, including both TANF and non-TANF recipients. Programs may include, but are not limited to, programs that link adult education and vocational educational training; programs that provide fast-track GED classes to individuals capable of preparing for and passing the GED exam in 10 weeks or less; English as a Second Language programs; and family literacy programs.

- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention** - The District uses or may use TANF funds to support grants for teen pregnancy prevention programs. These programs focus on girls and boys in 5th through 8th grades.
- **Preventing Repeat Pregnancies** - The District uses or may use TANF funds to pay for an intensive intervention program for low-income minor parents including both TANF and non-TANF recipients to reduce the incidence of second births to low-income teens.
- **Domestic Violence Services** - TANF funds are used or may be used to provide one or more grants to a domestic service provider or providers. The grantees provide counseling and other services to TANF applicants and recipients who indicate a history of domestic violence. These service providers assess the TANF applicant/recipient and develop a plan of service with the individuals.
- **Wraparound Family Services** - The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide services to address short term crises as well as long-term family issues that lead to long-term welfare dependency and inhibit self-sufficiency. The services will address the needs of the hardest to serve, target the well-being of the family unit, and serve to supplement financial and employment assistance.
- **Family Emergency Services** - The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide services to families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Funds may be used for program enhancements, including the provision of shelter and case management services for families in District shelters and/or in support of energy assistance to families to help avoid homelessness.
- **Fatherhood Initiative** – The District uses or may use TANF funds as one of a complement of funding sources to provide a continuum of supportive services to fathers of children in low-income families. Specifically, TANF funds support life skills education, group peer instruction, mediation services, counseling, and instruction on effective parenting. Services may include those to assist ex-offenders with their re-entry transition.
- **Tuition Assistance Program Initiative for TANF (TAPIT)** – TANF funds are used or may be used to provide tuition assistance for TANF recipients pursuing post-secondary education. TAPIT participants generally combine school attendance with employment-related activities such as a work-study program. TAPIT is the funding source of last resort, and recipients receive assistance pursuing alternative funding sources including Pell grants and District-supported tuition assistance.
- **Diversions Payment Program** – TANF applicants may qualify for diversion assistance in lieu of receiving ongoing TANF assistance. Applicants who face a short-term financial need and who indicate that employment could be found quickly if the short-term financial need is met are eligible for the Diversion Payment Program. Diversion payments may be applied to items such as auto insurance or car repair, rent and utilities, work clothes, and professional licenses or fees.
- **Transfers to Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)** –The funds transferred to SSBG fund homeless programs for families with children.
- **Child Care** – The District intends to transfer TANF funds to the designated State agency to fund child care subsidy payments for low income families in order for them to obtain or maintain employment.
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- **Family Preservation Services** – The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide family preservation-related services to low-income families with children. These services may include short-term out-of-home placements when a child is removed due to a family crisis. Such services may not be supported for more than 180 days and must be provided in conjunction with an assessment or services geared toward family reunification.
- **Services to Teens in Foster Care** – The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide an array of services to teens transitioning from foster care to independence. By assisting the teens to make successful transitions and prepare for employment, these services will support the goal of reducing out-of-wedlock childbearing among this group.
- **Services for Teen Parents in Foster Care** – The District uses or may use TANF funds in order to provide services to parenting teens who live in foster care with their children to foster good parenting skills and self-sufficiency.
- **Community Mini-Grants** – The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide small grants (typically less than \$40,000) to community-based organizations that provide services to needy families with children. The grantees will be organizations with overall budgets of less than \$150,000.
- **Children’s Services** – The District uses or may use TANF funds to support the Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation, a non-profit organization established to identify unmet needs among the District’s children and youth and to provide grants to community entities to meet those needs. Grants utilize a variety of populations- and neighborhood-specific approaches designed to strengthen families and prevent and reduce out-of-wedlock births.
- **Home Visiting Services** – TANF funds are used or may be used to fund community-based grantees that conduct home visits with customers at risk of sanction, customers who have been sanctioned and long-term TANF recipients. Home visitors conduct an in-depth assessment of customers’ needs and barriers and assist the customers in reconnecting with, or fully engaging in, work-related activities. Home visitors also make referrals to a wide array of supportive services to address identified barriers.
- **Individual Development Accounts** – TANF funds are used or may be used to fund Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). Such funds will be used to match contributions made by needy families consistent with guidelines for such a program outlined in the Social Security Act and policy guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- **Services to Families with Youth involved with Juvenile Court** – The District uses or may use TANF funds to provide an array of services to youth involved with the juvenile court and their families which will help children to become productive and competent members of society and families.

When implementing the Block Grant for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the District will defer to any existing TANF provisions or subsequent changes in federal law that may conflict with District law and regulations. It is not the intent of the District that any provision of its TANF plan be construed as an entitlement. This plan will be amended, as necessary, to reflect future program changes required after the opportunity for further consideration by the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia.

SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- (1) ***Provide Assistance to Needy Families:*** The District will use TANF funds to administer a cash assistance program for needy families with children. The eligibility rules, benefit levels, and work participation requirements and exemptions will be the same throughout the District. In addition to providing cash assistance to needy families, the program will also provide job preparation, work, and support services to enable families to leave the program and become self-sufficient.
- (2) ***Require Work after 24 Months:*** The program will require non-exempt parents or caretakers receiving assistance to engage in work (as defined by the District) once the District determines the parent or caretaker is ready to engage in work, or once the parent or caretaker has received assistance under the program for 24 months (whether or not consecutive), whichever is earlier. Non-exempt recipients are referred to work programs, generally operated by vendors. Most non-exempt recipients are referred to work programs shortly after application approval and far before two years of benefit receipt. Exemption categories are listed above. Individuals who meet the exemption criteria will be deemed to be meeting the 24-month work requirement by caring for their families.
- (3) ***Section 407 Work Requirements:*** Parents and caretakers receiving assistance under the program shall be engaged in work activities in accordance with Section 407 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. This will be achieved by requiring non-exempt recipients (exemptions are based on District law and regulations) to participate in employment-related programs such as those run by our vendors.
- (4) ***Confidentiality:*** Reasonable steps will be taken to restrict the use and disclosure of information about individuals and families receiving assistance under the program attributable to funds provided by the federal government. The District maintains a strict confidentiality policy under which information about TANF applicants or recipients may not be disclosed to third parties, without the consent of the applicant or recipient, except in specific cases, such as: information reported to the Child and Family Services Agency or law enforcement related to child abuse or neglect, information provided to law enforcement authorities when DHS has knowledge of the commission of a crime or when law enforcement requests information needed for criminal investigations or proceedings, and information reported to the Child Support Enforcement Division for the purposes of establishing paternity and collecting child support.
- (5) ***Out-of-Wedlock Pregnancies:*** The District uses TANF funds to administer a wide range of teen pregnancy prevention efforts through partnerships with other government agencies and with the participation of community-based organizations. These efforts have contributed to the District's success in reducing out-of-wedlock births. The District's numeric goal for the reduction in the illegitimacy ration is one percent for each fiscal year.
- (5) ***Statutory Rape:*** The District will disseminate information and materials about the issue of statutory rape to teen pregnancy prevention grantees through regular grantee meetings. In attendance at the meeting will be our teen pregnancy prevention partners (including community based organizations, school-based programs, and other government partners, as appropriate), as well as invited officials from the appropriate law enforcement agencies. These efforts will ensure that teen pregnancy prevention programs as well as social service providers, educators, and law enforcement officials who come in contact with teens and teen parents understand the legal issues surrounding statutory rape, what can be done to deter statutory rape, and the steps that shall be taken if statutory rape is suspected. The intent of this information is to facilitate the on-going inclusion of men and boys in the District's teen pregnancy prevention efforts.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- (1) ***Treatment of New Entrants to the District of Columbia:*** The District does not treat new entrants to the District of Columbia differently from other District residents.
- (2) ***Treatment of Immigrants:*** The District provides assistance to all qualified immigrants except for those immigrants who entered on or after August 22, 1996, who have not been in the country for five years, and who are not otherwise exempt from the five-year limitation imposed by Federal law.
- (3) ***Fair and Equitable Treatment:*** While District law does not provide an entitlement to TANF-funded assistance, the TANF cash assistance program (including TANF-related services) provides equal treatment for all applicants/recipients. That is, families in similar situations are treated similarly.

The following are the basic TANF (and MOE-funded Segregated State) cash assistance program parameters:

- ***Benefit Calculation:*** For applicants, the District disregards the first \$160 of earnings for work expenses. Out-of-pocket dependent care costs are also deducted up to a maximum of \$200 per child under two years of age, or \$175 per child two years of age or older. If the applicant's remaining countable income exceeds the District's payment level, the applicant is ineligible for benefits. When determining the eligibility of on-going recipients and the level of benefits to which a family is eligible to receive, a \$160 work expense deduction is applied and then an additional 2/3 of remaining earned income is deducted to compute countable earned income. The same dependent care deductions apply to recipients and applicants. A family is eligible for benefits equal to the difference between its countable income (composed of countable earned and unearned income) and the payment level.

The District has conformed its asset and resource limit to those utilized under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program (\$2,000 or \$3,000 for households with at least one elderly or disabled member). The District will disregard the entire value of all vehicles owned by or registered to the TANF applicant/recipient's household.

Recipients must generally report all changes in circumstances within 10 days of the change. TANF recipients with earned income are required to report changes in income every six months.

- ***Work Requirements:*** Non-exempt recipients are required to participate in work activities. (Exemption criteria are listed above.) Failing to participate in work activities without good cause leads to a pro-rata reduction in the family's TANF grant. (See sanction policy in the Income Maintenance Administration Policy Manual, Part V.) Non-exempt recipients are required to develop and sign an Individual Responsibility Plan (Plan). The Plan may establish employment goals, outline the steps the recipient must take to achieve those goals – including the work activities in which the recipient must participate – and describe the services the District will provide to assist the individual to attain self-sufficiency. The Plan is generally developed when a non-exempt recipient has been referred to a work program. Non-exempt applicants are required to participate in job search and preparation activities. Failure to participate in these activities may lead to sanction.

The District does not require an individual who is a single custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained 12 months of age to engage in work. In determining participation rates for work requirements, the District does not count the single custodial parent who has been determined to be exempt from work on the ground that he or she is

caring for a child under the age of 12 months. This exclusion applies for a period of not to exceed 12 months.

- **Child Support Requirement:** Recipients must assign their child support rights to the District of Columbia and must cooperate with child support requirements. Failure to cooperate with child support requirements, without good cause, leads to a 25% reduction in the family's TANF grant. TANF applicants and recipients are informed by both the TANF and child support agency of their right to claim good cause and the circumstances that would constitute good cause for failing to cooperate with child support requirements. The child support agency makes the determination regarding whether good cause exists for failing to cooperate with child support requirements.
- **Time Limit:** District law limits the number of months assistance groups that include a head of household or the spouse of the head of household may receive federally-funded TANF assistance. Such groups are limited to 60 months of federal TANF receipt. The District intends to exempt from the 60-month limitation on the receipt of federally-funded TANF assistance families who demonstrate hardship circumstances but will not exempt more families than 20 percent of the average monthly number of families to whom assistance is provided.
- **Minor Child Absent from the Home:** The District continues cash assistance for a child absent from the home, but residing in the District of Columbia, for no more than 90 consecutive days, unless good cause is established (see IMA Policy Manual, Part IV).
- **Application Timeframes:** TANF applications must be approved or denied within 45 days of the date of application or within 15 days of the date of sending a 30-day notice that informs the applicant of the need to provide additional information to verify eligibility factors.
- **Notices of Adverse Action:** Prior to the imposition of any adverse action, including a sanction, case closure, or benefit reduction, a notice of adverse action must be sent to the recipient. The notice must meet the adequate and timely standards. To be adequate, the notice must describe the action to be taken, the reason for the action, and the right to appeal the action. The notice must also include a statement of the legal authority for the action. To be timely, the notice must be sent at least 15 days prior to the effective date of the adverse action.
- **Administrative Review and Fair Hearing Rights:** TANF applicants or recipients who disagree with a proposed action, or an action that has been taken, may request an administrative review and/or a fair hearing. An administrative review is an informal process whereby DHS and the applicant or recipient attempt to resolve the issue. An individual who requests an administrative review may proceed to a fair hearing if he or she is not satisfied with the outcome of the administrative review. Recipients who request a fair hearing prior to the effective date of the adverse action may request that assistance continue at current levels pending the outcome of the fair hearing. A fair hearing may be requested after the effective date of the adverse action, but assistance cannot be continued pending the fair hearing decision.
- **Complaints:** Customers with complaints about service received by DHS may register those complaints with the Customer Service Department, the Office of Administrative Review, or the Income Maintenance Administrator's Office.

- ***Two-Month Community Service Requirement:*** The District intends to opt out of the option to require participation in community service employment on the part of a parent or caretaker receiving assistance under the program who, after receiving such assistance for two months, is not exempt from the work requirements and is not engaged in work.

SECTION 3. CERTIFICATION THAT THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WILL OPERATE A CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

The District certifies that during the fiscal year, the District will operate a child support enforcement program under the State Plan approved under part D.

SECTION 4. CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL OPERATE A FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The District certifies that during the fiscal year, the District will operate a foster care and adoption assistance program under the State Plan approved under part E, and the District will take such actions as necessary to ensure that children receiving assistance under such part are eligible for medical assistance under the State Plan under Title XIX.

SECTION 5. CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL PROVIDE INDIANS WITH EQUITABLE ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE.

The District certifies that during the fiscal year, the District will provide each member of an Indian tribe, who is domiciled in the District and is not eligible for assistance under a tribal family assistance plan approved under section 412, with equitable access to assistance under the State program funded under this part attributable to funds provided by the Federal Government.

SECTION 6. CERTIFICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM

The District certifies that the District's Department of Human Services is the District agency that will administer and supervise the program for the fiscal year.

The District also assures that the required 45-day comment period was allowed. On November 14, 2008, the draft TANF plan was published on the District web site to allow for a 45-day comment period. The plan was also posted in the [DC Register](#). The Department assures that comments were considered.

The Department assures that the District's TANF plan is available to the public upon request.

SECTION 7. CERTIFICATION OF STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE AGAINST PROGRAM FRAUD AND ABUSE

The District certifies that it has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to ensure against program fraud and abuse, including standards and procedures concerning nepotism, conflicts of interest among individuals responsible for the administration and supervision of the District program, kickbacks, and the use of political patronage.

SECTION 8: OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION OF STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT THE STATE WILL SCREEN FOR AND IDENTIFY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The District certifies that it will screen and identify individuals who receive assistance and who have a history of domestic violence while maintaining the confidentiality of such individuals. The District will refer such individuals to counseling and supportive services.

Individuals with a history of domestic violence may be exempted from work participation requirements and child support requirements. However, such individuals may choose to participate in work activities or pursue child support.

Explanation

Screening and Assessment

DHS caseworkers use the Preliminary Assessment of Employability Form to screen all applicants at initial application, and at any point during a customer's TANF receipt as necessary, for various barriers to employment and work participation, including domestic violence. If current or history of domestic violence is identified, a written referral for additional screening/assessment services will be provided to the applicant/recipient who should comply with the instructions. If an entity that operates a TANF work program discovers that a recipient has a domestic violence issue and may need services, that entity may contact DHS and a referral to the domestic violence service provider(s) will be made.

Should further screening/assessment confirm an initial finding of domestic violence, a plan of service will be developed in conjunction with the applicant/recipient. When developing the plan of service, the possibility of requesting a waiver of work requirements and/or child support cooperation requirements and the duration of such waivers will be discussed. Good cause waivers of work requirements are granted when work participation requirements would make it more difficult for the applicant/recipient to escape family violence.

Decisions on Domestic Violence Waivers

Decisions on granting or denying a domestic violence waiver of work requirements will be made within 15 business days of such a waiver request. During that time, if the applicant/recipient is otherwise eligible for TANF, financial assistance will not be delayed or denied. Because it may be necessary to waive work requirements to ensure the safety of the applicant/recipient, he or she will not be required to participate in work programs pending a decision on whether to grant a waiver.

When determining whether domestic violence occurred, the following evidence shall be used:

- police, government agency, or court records;
- documentation from a shelter, legal, clerical, medical, or other professional worker from whom the applicant/recipient has sought assistance;
- statements from other individuals with knowledge of the circumstances;
- physical evidence of domestic violence or any other evidence supporting the allegations;
and
- in the absence of evidence as listed above, allegations that the victim makes under oath, including the applicant's petition for a Civil Protection Order, shall be sufficient to substantiate a claim.

If an applicant/recipient decides not to seek or declines services or a waiver of work requirements due to domestic violence, he or she will not be barred from seeking such services and waivers at a later date. An applicant/recipient may terminate an existing waiver at any time without penalty. No waiver will ever be implemented against the will of the applicant/recipient.

Once granted a waiver, any applicant/recipient who voluntarily chooses to participate in approved TANF activities shall be allowed to do so.

Child Support

Information on the “good cause” reasons for failing to cooperate with child support requirements are provided to an applicant/recipient at application and recertification for TANF benefits. The “good cause” reasons largely focus on domestic violence issues. This information is also provided directly by the Child Support Enforcement Division. Applicants and recipients can indicate to their TANF caseworker their intent to claim good cause for failing to cooperate with child support requirements. That will alert the child support agency that the individual wishes to claim good cause. The applicant/recipient can also indicate intent to claim good cause with the child support agency directly. Ultimately, the Child Support Enforcement Division makes good cause determinations related to child support requirements.

Time Limits

A history of domestic violence as well as current domestic violence involvement will be considered when determining exemptions to the 60-month time limit.

SECTION 9. NON-DISCRIMINATION ASSURANCES

The District assures that the following provisions of law will apply to programs and activities funded under TANF:

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 *et seq.*)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794).

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*)

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*)

District of Columbia Human Rights Act (D.C. Official Code §§ 2-1401.01 *et seq.*)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- (1) The District intends to use matches with quarterly wage records and administrative records to determine the performance of State programs funded under this part.
- (2) The District may administer and provide services through contracts with charitable, religious, or public and private organizations, and may provide beneficiaries of the services with vouchers, certificates, or forms of disbursement which are redeemable with such organizations, or used as a means of providing assistance.
- (3) The District has chosen not to adopt the following:
 - the option to deny assistance to individuals convicted (under Federal or District law) of any offense which is classified as a felony by the law of the jurisdiction involved and that has as an element the possession, use, or distribution of a controlled substance (D.C. Official Code § 4-205.71 (April 20, 1999));
 - the option to require a parent or caretaker receiving assistance under the program who, after receiving such assistance for two months is not exempt from work requirements and is not engaged in work, to participate in community service employment;
 - the option to sanction a family that includes an adult who is older than 20 years of age or younger than 51 years of age if such adult does not have, or is not working toward

attaining, a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent unless certain exceptions are met;

- the option to test recipients of assistance for use of controlled substances or sanction recipients who test positive for controlled substances.

(4) **Request for Comments Block Grant TANF 2008 11 10 08**

- **TANF Cash Assistance Program/Diversion Payment Program**

(Note: TAPIT and home visiting services are funded with TANF and are available only to TANF recipients. Diversion assistance is available only to individuals otherwise eligible for TANF cash assistance. Domestic Violence services are available to TANF applicants up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level and TANF recipients)

Net Income must be less than Payment Level. Countable Resources must be less than Food Stamp Resource Limit.

Group Size	Payment Levels (effective October 1, 2008)
1	\$270
2	336
3	428
4	523
5	602
6	708
7	812
8	897
9	987
10	1072
11	1,131
12	1,216
13	1,271
14	1,340
15	1,391
16	1,461
17	1,602
18	1,639
19	1,673

Group Size	Payment Levels (effective November 1, 2008)
1	\$275
2	343
3	437
4	533
5	614
6	722
7	828
8	915
9	1,107
10	1,093
11	1,154
12	1,240
13	1,296
14	1,367
15	1,419
16	1,490
17	1,634
18	1,672
19	1,706

- **Literacy Services**

Gross Income must be below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.

- **Child Care**

For the child care subsidy program, income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.

- **Family Preservation Services**

Gross income must be below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.

- **Services to Teens in Foster Care**
No income or resource test is required. Gross income must be below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Services for Teen Parents in Foster Care**
Gross income must be below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Community Mini Grants**
Grantees are required to use the funds to assist families with children with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
 - **Fatherhood Initiative**
Gross income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Family Emergency Services**
Gross income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Wraparound Family Services**
Gross income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Children's Services**
Some of the programs funded by the Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation (Corporation) will be for a purpose that falls within Section 401(a)(3) or Section 401(a)(4) of the Social Security Act. In these cases, no income test is required. For programs funded by the Corporation that do not fall within these purposes, the program must serve children, youth or families with children whose incomes are below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.
 - **Preventing Repeat Pregnancies/Teen Pregnancy Prevention**
These programs are not required to include a means test because they meet the third purpose of the TANF statute (“...prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies...”). However, programs are designed to serve low-income families; that is, those with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level.
 - **Individual Development Accounts**
Gross income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
 - **Services to Families with Youth involved with Juvenile Court**
Gross income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. No Resource Limit.
- (5) **MOE-Funded Segregated Programs**
- MOE funds are used to provide cash assistance under a Segregated State Program not subject to federal time limits on the receipt of assistance. Income and resource standards applied to the Segregated State Program mirror those applied to the TANF-funded cash assistance program as documented in Section (4) above.

This program supports eligible families with children under 12 months of age who have exhausted their 12-month lifetime exemption from federal work participation requirements, but whom the District exempts from participating in work activities. Additionally, the District supports longstayer customers (those who had received assistance more than 60 months) who make a good faith effort to participate in countable activities (i.e., who are not sanctioned).

- The District of Columbia will also support through the segregated state program customers who meet the federal work participation requirement, as well as those who do not meet the requirement, but are making a good faith effort, as measured by hours of participation in countable activities.

(6) MOE-Funded Separate State Programs

- District of Columbia does not provide cash assistance under an MOE-funded Separate State Program.

(7) Use of MOE

- Maintenance of effort funds may be used to provide child care subsidies to low-income District children whose parents are working or participating in employment-related programs. These funds are used to provide subsidies to low-income working families and support quality enhancement initiatives. For the child care subsidy program, income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- MOE funds may be used to support employment services for TANF recipients. Employment retention service is available to former TANF recipients up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- MOE funds may be commingled with federal TANF funds to fund basic cash assistance to families in the TANF program.
- MOE funds may be used to finance certain administrative and systems costs associated with the TANF program.

**CERTIFICATION BY THE MAYOR OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN SUPPORT OF THE TANF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
STATE PLAN**

The District of Columbia will operate a program to provide Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) so that the children may be cared for in their own homes or in homes of relatives or caregivers and to end dependence of needy able-bodied adults on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and self-sufficiency.

The plan includes all required assurances and provisions to be implemented by the District of Columbia Department of Human Services. The named District Government agency has been given authority to administer and supervise the activities referenced in the state plan.

I hereby approve this TANF State Plan for the District of Columbia and submittal of this plan to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Date

Signed: _____
Adrian M. Fenty
Mayor

Written comments on the State Plan should be sent to Deborah A. Carroll, Interim Administrator, Income Maintenance Administration, 645 H Street, NE, 5th Floor, Washington, DC, no later than forty-five (45) days from the date of this publication in the *DC Register*. Copies of the Plan may be obtained from the above address.