

## INFORMATION AND FACTS ABOUT TANF

# REDUCTIONS & TERMINATIONS

## Who Experiences Reductions?

According to Federal and District law, there is a 60-month time limit to receive TANF benefits. Those who have exceeded the 60-month time limit experienced a 20 percent reduction in benefits in April, 2011.

## What Can I Do to Stop the Reductions?

Unlike sanctions, reductions cannot be avoided. Customers who have currently exceeded the 60-month time limit to receive TANF benefits should anticipate a gradual reduction in benefits until the case is terminated in 2015, or the customer is no longer eligible to receive TANF. Reductions in benefits for customers who have exceeded the time limit will occur even if they comply with work participation activities.

## When Should I Anticipate Another Reduction?

On October 1, 2013, TANF customers who have exceeded the 60-month time limit to receive TANF benefits are scheduled to receive a 25 percent reduction in addition to the reduction that occurred in 2011. The Council of the District of Columbia, however, makes the final determination.

## What Is the New Termination Policy?

Effective February 1, 2013, it is a requirement of eligibility that a customer complete an Orientation, Work-Readiness Assessment and Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP) at TANF recertification, unless the process has been completed.

If the head of household does not complete the Orientation, Assessment and IRP process, by the effective date of termination, TANF benefits for the family will be terminated. **If benefits are terminated, the customer will have to reapply for TANF.**

## Who is Exempt From Completing the Assessment?

- Adults who receive Supplemental Social Security Income.
- Caregiver relatives other than a parent whose needs are not included in the TANF grant.
- Recipients who are currently in the POWER program.
- Dependent children



**For more information about Reductions and Terminations, please call the Family Resource Center at 202.698.1860**