

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND FACTS ABOUT TANF REQUIREMENTS



## WHAT ARE THE NEW TANF REQUIREMENTS?

TANF customers must now attend an Orientation and complete an Assessment and Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP) when applying for or recertifying for benefits.

## WHAT IS AN ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT?

The Orientation explains the new requirements for receiving TANF. The Assessment is a private interview with a DHS specialist that will identify a customer's strengths as well as challenges to determine the best vendor/provider to help the customer move toward self-sufficiency.

## WHAT IF I DO NOT COMPLETE THE ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT?

If you do not attend the Orientation and complete the Assessment and IRP when required, you will not be eligible to receive TANF benefits.

## WHAT IS AN IRP?

The Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP), is developed by you along with a Vocational Development Specialist (VDS) from the Department of Human Services. It lists your goals, and career interests, and the steps needed to achieve self sufficiency. You are required to complete the activities in your IRP, which may include going to work or attending school. You can modify your IRP, but you will need to work with your case manager to make changes.

## WHAT IF I DO NOT FOLLOW MY IRP?

If you do not follow your IRP, and you do not have a documented good cause, you will be sanctioned. A sanction is a temporary reduction in benefits applied to your case until you are in compliance with your IRP for four weeks. You **MUST** report to **OWO** to update your IRP.

## HOW DO I COMPLETE THE ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT ?

You will be assigned to a vendor/service provider based on the results of your assessment. You will also be eligible to apply for assistance with child care.

## HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TANF REQUIREMENTS?

For more information about TANF Requirements, please call the Family Resource Center at 202.698.1860



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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