

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion 12/01/2015

State: Missouri

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2016

Overall Report (check one)
Two-parent Report

Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? yes no

PART I –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005
(Complete this section for EACH change)

1. Name of eligibility change: Change two parent households to solely state funded program.
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2006.
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Beginning October 2006, Missouri opted to remove two-parent families subject to work participation requirements from TANF. Two-parent families subject to work participation requirements are in a solely state funded program.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): The impact of the change is shown on the two-parent impact worksheet in Part II of this report, which depicts the average two-parent household caseload from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. An average was used to calculate the net impact.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -2,429

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1. Name of eligibility change: Immediate Engagement
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: January 1, 2008
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: All Temporary Assistance applicants who were not exempt or excluded from work participation activities were required to begin the process to engage in work activities with the Division of Workforce Development (DWD) prior to approval of the Temporary Assistance application. This policy was referred to as Immediate Engagement. All Temporary Assistance applicants who did not meet an exemption or exclusion from work participation activities were required to meet with DWD and complete an Individual Employment Plan prior to approval of the Temporary Assistance application or have good cause for not doing so.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) Note that effective December 6, 2010 the policy was ended and no longer an eligibility factor for Temporary Assistance.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: no impact

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1. Name of eligibility change: Implement the Transitional Employment Benefit (TEB) program as a separate state program.
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2008
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: TEB is a fifty dollar (\$50.00) payment to families for up to six (6) months when the family loses eligibility for Temporary Assistance benefits due to an increase in earned income, removal of an earnings disregard or an allowable expense deduction, or a household composition change which causes ineligibility due to income guidelines for Temporary Assistance. TEB helps to support working families during their transition into employment and the loss of eligibility for Temporary Assistance. Previously families received no assistance following loss of Temporary Assistance eligibility due to earned income.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) The impact of the change is shown on the TEB impact worksheet in Part II of this report, which identifies the number of TEB families each month from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. An average was used to calculate the impact.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 1,993

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1. Name of eligibility change: Temporary Assistance Recipient Drug Testing
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: March 4, 2013
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: All applicants and participants for Temporary Assistance (TA) benefits who are age eighteen (18) or older and are the head of household will complete a screening for illegal use of a controlled substance. Individuals required to complete the screening must cooperate with the screening in order to receive or continue to receive Temporary Assistance (TA). The screening determines if an individual applying for TA benefits must be referred for a drug test. Participants who are age eighteen (18) or older and are the head of household and are receiving Temporary Assistance (TA) benefits are submitted quarterly to a match with the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP). This match searches law enforcement records for participants that have an arrest or conviction for a misdemeanor or felony drug offense for the previous 12 months. If there is a match, the participant is referred for a drug test.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) There is no impact due to this eligibility change as any individual that does not comply with the drug screening, drug testing, or tests positive may be disqualified from receiving Temporary Assistance for themselves for three years, however the children continue receiving Temporary Assistance benefits.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: no impact

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1. Name of eligibility change: Temporary Assistance Orientation Required
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 28, 2015
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: All Temporary Assistance applicants are required to complete an orientation that provides information about the Temporary Assistance program rules and requirements prior to an eligibility determination for Temporary Assistance.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) There is zero impact due to this eligibility change at this time. This new eligibility requirement was implemented with 34 days remaining in the fiscal year. A report listing any Temporary Assistance applications rejected for failure to complete the orientation showed 3 cases were rejected for this reason in September and have not been approved for Temporary Assistance since that time. The impact is shown on the Orientation Impact worksheet in Part II of this report, which identifies the number of TA families rejected for this eligibility factor in September 30, 2015. An average was used to calculate the impact. This eligibility change may cause a decrease in the Temporary Assistance caseload when in effect for a full year. Data will be analyzed each year to determine the number of cases impacted by this eligibility change.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 0

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1. Name of eligibility change: Personal Responsibility Plan Required
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 28, 2015
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: All Temporary Assistance applicants that are subject to work requirements must complete a personal responsibility plan prior to determining eligibility for Temporary Assistance. The personal responsibility plan lists the employment and training activities available to choose from and must indicate which activities they will take part in if approved for Temporary Assistance.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
(attach supporting materials to this form) There is zero impact due to this eligibility change at this time. This new eligibility requirement was implemented with 34 days remaining in the fiscal year. A report listing any Temporary Assistance applications rejected for failure to complete the Personal Responsibility Plan showed 1 case was rejected for this reason in September and has not been approved for Temporary Assistance since that time. The impact is shown on the Personal Responsibility Plan Impact worksheet in Part II of this report, which identifies the number of TA families rejected for this eligibility factor exclusively in September 30, 2015. An average was used to calculate the impact. This eligibility change may cause a decrease in the Temporary Assistance caseload when in effect for a full year. Data will be analyzed each year to determine the number of cases impacted by this eligibility change.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 0

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1. Name of eligibility change: Sanction Policy Change for Non-Compliance with Work Activities
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 28, 2015
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: The sanction applied to the Temporary Assistance benefit for non-compliance with work requirements changed from the 25% benefit reduction to a tiered sanction, beginning with a 50% reduction in benefits. Once this reduction is imposed, if non-compliance continues for up to 10 weeks, a full-family sanction is imposed and the Temporary Assistance case is closed.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) There is zero impact due to this eligibility change at this time. This change in sanction policy was implemented with 34 days remaining in the fiscal year. Due to the timeframes established to end the sanction or implement the full-family sanction, no Temporary Assistance cases were closed due to this change in policy during this fiscal year. This eligibility change may cause a decrease in the Temporary Assistance caseload when in effect for a full year. Data will be analyzed each year to determine the number of cases impacted by this eligibility change.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 0

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1. Name of eligibility change: Temporary Assistance Applicants with a Full-Family Sanction
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 28, 2015
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: When an individual re-applies for Temporary Assistance after the case was close due to a full-family sanction, the applicant must complete a work activity for a minimum average of thirty hours for at least one week before becoming eligible for Temporary Assistance. If the applicant is no longer subject to work requirements, the full-family sanction is ended and participation in a work activity is not required.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) There is zero impact due to this eligibility change at this time. This change in sanction policy was implemented with 34 days remaining in the fiscal year. Due to the timeframe established by this policy to implement a full-family sanction, no Temporary Assistance cases were closed due to a full-family sanction during this fiscal year. Therefore, no Temporary Assistance applications have been rejected for failing to complete the required hours to end a full-family sanction during this fiscal year. This eligibility change may cause a decrease in the Temporary Assistance caseload when in effect for a full year. Data will be analyzed each year to determine the number of cases impacted by this eligibility change.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 0

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PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit

(Complete Part 2 using Excel Workbook provided.)

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PART 3 -- Certification

I certify that we have provided the public an appropriate opportunity to comment on the estimates and methodology used to complete this report and considered those comments in completing it. Further, I certify that this report incorporates all reductions in the caseload resulting from State eligibility changes and changes in Federal requirements since Fiscal Year 2005.



(signature)

Julie Gibson

Director, Family Support Division