

Skill Challenge

Non-needy Caretaker Relatives (NNCR) - TANF Eligibility and Case Coding

Effective May 1, 2009 an income limit is established at 185 percent of the Federal Level for non-needy caretakers to be able to receive TANF cash assistance for relative children in their care. See how well you know the new eligibility policy!

True or False

1. T or F Effective May 1, 2009, all TANF no-parent household applicants and recipients must have income below 185% of the FPL to be eligible. ***Only NNCR applicants and recipients are subject to the income limit. Non-citizen and SSI no-parent households are not affected.***
2. T or F Current NNCR TANF recipients will be “grandfathered,” therefore, the new income limit does not apply until the next re-determination of eligibility. ***Current recipients will be notified they must submit household composition information and income verification to re-determine eligibility. If the requested items are not returned, TANF cash assistance benefits will end.***
3. T or F Income of the *financial* group members must be coded on each individual, using the applicable code for the income type. ***Countable income of individuals not in the need group, is combined and coded as “NNI” under the Payee. Countable income of the individuals included in the need group is coded under the respective individual, using the applicable code for the income type.***
4. T or F All individuals in the *household* group, with their respective “in-grant” code, must be entered on CMS. ***The number in the household is coded on CMS to determine TANF benefit level. All individual filing group members must be added to CMS.***
5. T or F As an applicant, the *need* group in NNCR households must have resources below \$2,500 to be eligible for TANF. ***Individuals in the TANF need group must meet all financial and non-financial eligibility requirements.***

Fill in the Blank

6. Income of the NNCR *financial* group must be under the “Non-Needy Countable Income Limit Standard” for the number in the *filing* group.

7. Income of individuals included in the *financial* group, but not included in the *need* group, is coded *_NNI_* on CMS.
8. The number in the *_household_* group is entered on CMS to determine TANF benefit level.
9. Income of individuals included in the *_need_* group must be under the “TANF No-Adult Standard” to be eligible.

Multiple Choice

10. A grandmother is applying for TANF for her two grandchildren as a NNCR. The date of request is 04/24/09. The grandmother indicated on the DHS 415F that she is receiving \$3,000 per month in retirement benefits, but did not provide verification. Neither of the two grandchildren receive any income. All other eligibility factors are cleared. The worker will:

- a. Deny TANF. \$3,000 is more than the Non-needy Countable Income Limit Standard for 3 in the filing group (\$2,823)
- b. Pend the application and send a 210 requesting verification of income. Take appropriate action based on whether or not verification is received.
- c. ***Open TANF effective 04/24/09, and send a 210A requesting verification of income. If verification is received, redetermine eligibility. If verification is not received, send a Timely Continuing Benefit Decision Notice to end TANF cash assistance.***

11. A grandfather is applying for TANF for his grandson as a NNCR. The date of request is 05/08/09. The grandfather receives \$1000 each month in Veterans Benefits. The grandson receives SSB in the amount of \$300 each month. All verification has been provided. The worker will:

- a. Open TANF. The countable income of the financial group (\$1,300) is less than the Non-needy Countable Income Limit Standard for 2 in the filing group (\$2,247). Code the combined income as NNI under the payee.
- b. Open TANF. The countable income of the financial group (\$1,300) is less than the Non-needy Countable Income Limit Standard for 2 in the filing group (\$2,247). Code the income as VET / \$1,000 with the grandfather, and SSB / \$300 with the grandson.
- c. ***Deny TANF. The countable income of the financial group (\$1,300) is less than the Non-needy Countable Income Limit Standard for 2 in the filing group (\$2,247). However, the countable income of the need group (grandson-SSB / \$300) is more than the TANF No-Adult Standard adjusted income limit (\$220).***

12. An Aunt is applying for TANF for her two nieces (sisters) as a NNCR. The Aunt is employed, earning \$15.00 per hour, works 40 hours per week, and is paid weekly. She received 4 checks in the budget month (\$2,400 total). In addition, she has \$5,000 in a savings account.

One of her nieces receives SSI in the amount of \$650 each month. The other niece receives SSB in the amount of \$100 each month. All verification has been received. The worker will:

- a. Deny TANF. The combined countable income of the financial group (\$3,150) is over the Non-Needy Countable Income Limit Standard for three in the filing group (\$2,823).
- b. Open TANF. The combined countable income of the financial group (\$2,500 excluding SSI) is less than the Non-needy Countable Income Limit Standard for three in the filing group (\$2,823) and, the combined countable income of the need group (\$100 excluding SSI) is less than the TANF No-adult Standard adjusted income limit (\$173).*
- c. Deny TANF. The aunt is over the TANF resource limit (\$2,500).

Remember!

- ✓ **This new income limit only affects Non-needy Caretaker Relative TANF applicants and recipients.**
- ✓ **Other no-parent households such as SSI or non-citizen adults are not affected.**
- ✓ **Other programs such as MAA medical are not affected.**
- ✓ **Other TANF eligibility requirements or exclusions for non-needy caretaker relatives are not affected.**