

Dave Lyda, TANF Program Manager

Authorized Signature

Number: SS-IM-07-012

Issue Date: 08/27/2007

Topic: Other

Subject: TANF Redesign - Weekly Q & A

Applies to (check all that apply):

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): All SS Staff, JOBS Partners |

Message:

Here is your weekly Q&A resulting primarily from Day 2 of the Summits. There has been some policy clarification since the early Summits. We will continue to answer questions as we can, focusing on your top 10-20 weekly.

You may submit questions you would like to see answered in this weekly message. We will be considering these questions as we develop future training.

Your Top Questions...

- 1.) What happens if someone doesn't request Post-TANF right away because working fewer hours and doesn't want JOBS activity, and then 3 months later they get 30 hours—can they do Post-TANF for the next 9 months?

Answer: Clients are required to submit work verification for Post-TANF (by submitting pay stubs or other documents showing work hours) within 45 days of the 1st of the month after they leave Pre-TANF, TANF or are not found eligible for Post-TANF because of lack of hours. If the client submits documents later than 45 days from these dates, they will only be eligible for Post-TANF payments from that month forward.

- 2.) On reporting requirements, as they relate to Post-TANF and other reporting systems...if we receive a report of a change in one program, how will it affect others?

Answer: Any report of change for any other Self-Sufficiency program that affects Post-TANF eligibility, must be acted upon.

3.) If employed doing child care, will they be eligible for Post-TANF? Please explain.

Answer: We believe the question is: Will a client in self-employment qualify for Post-TANF? Yes, but remember to get Post-TANF clients must go over income for TANF due to earnings and the calculation of work hours is: Business Income minus Business Expense divided by the federal minimum wage. For example: \$1,000 earned in a month minus \$250 in business expenses = \$750 divided by \$5.85 = 128 work hours per month.

4.) What happens to the DQI income on FS cases when the DQ's are removed or converted? Will the worker need to update? Will it be automatically removed or corrected?

Answer: For the disqualification reviews during July and August, and for the September one time opportunity to have disqualifications removed, workers should lift the DQI effective the first of the next month after the DJ or MA disqualification was removed. This includes removing the HH Type: MNL.

For the conversion effective October 1, central office will send guidance in September.

For questions about DQI you may send an email to the "Policy, FS" e-mail address.

5.) When will the GAIN screening tool be available to be used?

Answer: The GAIN-SS will be available for use on October 1, for those who have been identified to administer and receive training on the tool.

The dates for the web-based training, being provided by Chestnut Health Systems, will be September 6, 18, 20 and 27, 2007 from 2:00 to 4:00p.m. The details on how to register and receive credit will be provided soon by Chestnut Health Systems.

The GAIN-SS Oregon version itself will be available on the forms directory in PDF format only and will not be interactive. Those who have been identified as having undergone the training to administer the tool will be given the website code to access the form once verification of completed training has been provided.

6.) Do clients go into Pre-TANF before clearing eligibility? What if something on the application indicates they may not be eligible? Please clarify.

Answer: Pre-TANF is based on presumed eligibility for TANF. Clients whose unverified application indicates they are not eligible for TANF do not go into Pre-TANF. They may, however, still be eligible for other programs such as food stamps and medical.

7.) Are you going to re-instate 'at risk' or 'diversion' payments? Or must the client pursue TANF and participate in JOBS to get Pre-TANF support service payments?

Answer: We do not plan to re-instate 'at risk' or 'diversion' payments. The client must be an applicant for TANF in order to take advantage of Pre-TANF program services and payments.

8.) Does participation in JOBS Plus stop the time limit clock?

Answer: Yes. JOBS Plus is funded with state funds and as such it does not count toward the TANF time limit.

9.) How will case managers know about a client's time on TANF in another state? Self disclosure? How will a client's time on TANF in another state be tracked?

Answer: Case managers will be expected to follow-up with the client about time on assistance in other states. When the client indicates on their 415F application that they have received assistance in another state, workers will need to verify with the other state (or states) the number of months received from July 2003 forward.

10.) Do you have to be eligible for TANF to go into Pre-TANF? What is presumed eligible? What happens when the client appears eligible on the application, but later turns in pended information and is determined not eligible.

Answer: If a client is presumed eligible for TANF, the client can participate in Pre-TANF. If during the application process the client provides verification that indicates the client is not eligible, the TANF application is denied. There is no overpayment for payments made in Pre-TANF while the client was presumed eligible.

If you have a question you would like to see answered in this weekly message, please send it to linda.weight@state.or.us

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

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