

TANF Analyst Hour

02/21/23

Topic: Combined analyst hour with Refugee Policy

Q: Are we supposed to be asking if they're on parole and how long? I've never heard about that - is it new?

A: For **REF Cash**, please ask them for their immigration status and documents. **Humanitarian Parole** is one of the eligible statuses if the individual is from specific countries. This eligibility is also based on when they were paroled into the U.S. Please refer to OAR 461-120-0125 and OPEN chapter 6 for more details.

Q: I thought that was a recent change that newborns SSN must be provided by 6 months? For some reason, I thought I seen a transmittal that they can provide at next review, if after 6 months.

A: As of January 1, 2023, a child born in an Oregon hospital has up to 6 months to provide the SSN. Regardless of whether the recertification occurs within the 6 months.

Q: Would we be able to get a copy of the slide deck? It's a nice breakdown

A: Yes

Q: I have trouble with the families that aren't eligible for family coach services. can you explain more about that and maybe how best to explain to families that that are not eligible for services?

A: For TANF some adults receiving cash assistance are not considered JOBS eligible or volunteer therefore they are not eligible for support services. Although a person is not eligible for the JOBS program it is important to provide support through family coaching services.

A: For REF Cash, individuals or couples should have a family coach.

Q: Do we need a written PDP for adults on TANF that are not work authorized?

A: No, PDPs are created for JOBS eligible/volunteers only. A goal plan through the Family Assessment could be provided to the individual.

Q: Are 415As required even with no adult households?

A: The 415A is required for TANF eligibility to be completed by all adults in the need group who are authorized to work in the United States.

Q: So minor parents are 'required' to live with their parents... UNLESS there is good cause... and if they are then we have to deem so then most will not be eligible for TANF

A: Minor parents are required to reside with their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) unless good cause is determined. When determining TANF eligibility for minor parents that are residing with their parent(s) and their parent(s) are not applying for TANF their parent's income will need to be deemed.

Q: Can individuals such as non-needy caretaker relatives, volunteer for the JOBS program?

A: JOBS exempt individuals are not eligible to volunteer in JOBS. It is pertinent to discuss what the needs of the individual are and refer to community resources. A goal plan through the Family Assessment could be provided to the individual.

Q: Can caretaker relatives be either "needy or non-needy"?

A: A caretaker relative can apply for TANF for themselves and if eligible would be a needy caretaker relative. A non-needy caretaker relative is a caretaker relative not receiving TANF benefits for themselves.

Q: At what age do REF Cash participants become exempt for REP?

A: As per OAR 461-130-0310, an individual is exempt from Refugee Employment Program if they are 65 years or older.

Q: ONE requires an SSN or a way around it, how should we go about that? can you please talk a little more about it? Please and thank you

A: Per OAR 461-120-0210 TANF requires an individual to either have an SSN or verification of application for an SSN. If an individual provides verification of application or if the newborn was born in an Oregon hospital. You would add the appropriate response into ONE field 'Reason for not yet having an SSN', either "newborn without SSN" or "applied for not yet received". The system would then soft pend the individual for 6 months to allow time for them to obtain the SSN.

Q: Does ESL count as them attending Higher EDU at a Community college?

A: ESL would be allowable under the step English as a Second Language (ES). Please refer to page 10 of the JOBS Activity Guidelines.

A. For REF Cash: As per 461-135-0900 (3) (a), GED, ABE, ESL, and high school equivalency programs are not considered "higher education".

Q: How do you determine legally emancipated to a refugee minor child?

A. For REF Cash: They will have documentation. Emancipation is regulated by Oregon law (ORS 419B.550-419B.558) and requires a Court order.

Q: Is there a training or recording that discusses the in's and out's of Refugee Employment Program? (For example, comparing with TANF JOBS - or are they mostly the same?)

A. There is no specific training discussing the Refugee Employment Program (REP). We are starting analyst hour for the Refugee Program and REP will be one of the topic areas.

Q: Would receiving Refuge Cash, allow them to also have SNAP?

A. The eligibility requirements for REF Cash and SNAP are determined separately. A client eligible for REF Cash can apply and could potentially be eligible for SNAP benefits. But they will have to apply and meet the SNAP requirements.

Q: So, if they are refugees with TANF (with children), then they must apply for SSNs before they can qualify?

A: To be determined a qualified non-citizen, application for an SSN is required.

Q: Who gives a document to determine that a child is legally emancipated. Do you want us to refer CW if a child come to us without BAM relationship?

A: Documentation from the court granting legal emancipation. If child's safety at risk a report should be made to CW.

Q: Can a 19-year-old sibling be a caretaker relative for their 16 year-old sibling?

A: A 19-year-old sibling can be a caretaker relative and apply for TANF benefits.

Question for Jason

Q: If the emancipated individual lives with a family - do they have to use the income of the family (adults) or they are in their own filing group for all programs ? (Not related family.)

A: Emancipated minors are very rare in the refugee program. For case specific questions please reach out to Refugee Policy.

Q: Do REFC individual (not work authorized) have to participant in REP program?

A: OAR 461-130-0310 (4), lists the exceptions for a REF Cash recipient to not participate in the REP program. The reasons listed do not identify "not being work authorized" as a valid reason for exemption. If they are not work authorized, they should not be referred to direct employment activities such as job search. They may engage in other activities like ESL.

Q: Will REFC change the REP DQ later? It seems so unfair to close people who are refugees.

A: The penalty for REP DQ is a federal requirement.

Q: Should Adult children, 18 years of age and older, have their own REF case if the rest of the family qualifies for TANF?

A: If they are 18 years and still attending High School, they may be eligible for TANF. If not, then they would need to apply for their own REF Cash case.

Q: Verbal Question: If an individual does not apply for REF until 3months from DSG, does that mean they only receive 9months of benefits?

A: Yes. Eligibility for REF is connected to the date that status is granted.

Q: Are there online REP resources? I'm not finding anything in Staff Tools.

A: The team is currently addressing the need.

Q: If someone has been granted at least for one year parolee status regardless of the country of origin they are eligible for refugee cash benefit. Is it correct?

A: For REF Cash only humanitarian parolees from specific countries are eligible. For a list of eligible humanitarian parole statuses please refer to OPEN chapter 6 – Noncitizens. For TANF the policy may vary.

Q: And folks under the UHP status are treated as refugees, correct?

A: Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees may be eligible for REF Cash benefits if they were paroled between 2/24/2022 and 9/30/2023.

Q: Can we pay transportation for REF participants to attend their Immigration appts/Court?

A: In REF, if it is an approved activity on their case plan then support services can pay for transportation.

Q: Verbal Question: TANF families that are UHP have work authorization upon entry and have to apply for work authorization card, not eligible until they apply for SSN. The social security office has not been issuing SSN's for folks who don't need a non-work authorized SSN, is there any update on this?

A: Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolee

Q: I heard REP plans don't get added as a PDP in TRACS. So, ONE will issue support services without that?

A. REP plans are handwritten and should be scanned into EDMS. ONE should issue support services, if not contact Refugee Policy.

Q: Where do we find info on what REF Cash pays for with support services? Where is that in OPEN or in Staff Tools? Can you cite the rule#?

A. OAR 461-190-0211 (a)(b) lists approved support payment items. The QRG for program payments and supports also has a list of allowable services. [QRG Program Payments and Supports.pdf](#)