

TANF REINVESTMENT WEEKLY CONFERENCE CALL

MARCH 1, 2016

- Calls are every Tuesday through May 1st
- Weekly emails with Q&A's will be sent out through the SSP Directors Office
- Send all TANF Reinvestment questions to Sherrie.l.burrell@state.or.us
Email subject line - **Question - TANF Reinvestment**

GENERAL QUESTIONS	
Will there be regular Q&A's that will follow these discussion?	Yes. Q&A's will be sent by Friday of the same week that the call occurs. Emails will be sent from the SSP Directors Email box.
How Do I ask a question?	The weekly calls cover any clarification on the previous weeks Q&A. It will also cover any new questions that are received during the prior week. If you have a question around the Reinvestment, please send it <i>prior to the Tuesday call</i> to Sherrie.l.burrell@state.or.us These calls are designed to provide additional support to field staff around the upcoming changes that are related to the TANF Reinvestment. Questions and clarification will be addressed on a weekly basis. Regular TANF policy questions will continue to be sent to the Policy Box for TANF.

BENEFITS CLIFF	
When does TBA being?	TBA begins when the case goes over the income limit. Remember, they still must report timely
Once exit limit increases- what will participation look like?	Participation is not changing. Depending on the case, if this is an ongoing TANF case with employment, do a WO step. Close like we normally would when the TANF ends the second Friday after. If this is a TANF case and they go OVI for TANF, look at JPI verification to add to UCMS (if we get verification). Just remember don't code on FSMIS while Employment Payments are being paid out.
Now that cases are held longer, was the data reviewed for what this will mean for caseload impact?	<i>This information is currently pending for additional research</i>

TIME LIMITS	
Folks below 60 mths, will those codes drop off?	NO. Coding needs to remain on the case to track those case for funding. <u>The codes will not stop the clock</u>
If an extension is allowed, how is the system tracking and who is responsible for the coding?	Hardship extension is not tied to recert any longer. Coding will be tied to an end date or date of verification received. EVENTUALLY, the system will convert the case on the end date coded but this may fall to workers until the system is ready to take the action.
After 60 months and no extension is allowed, who codes those cases or will it go auto?	When a case reaches the 60 th month, that case needs to be reviewed by the worker for hardship extension. The worker is responsible to code this case appropriately.
When a client times out, and TANF closes, will it be just the adults on the case, or the entire family	The adult who reaches the 60 months and no hardship extension is applicable, the TANF for that adult would close and they would still be eligible for TANF for their children only. Remember: the adult who is still receiving TANF for children is still mandatory to engage in the JOBS program. There are cases or situations where converting the adult to a "NO" on the case will cause the entire case to close.
Indian Country –will months count towards time limits?	For April 1, there are no changes to the Indian Country calculations or designations. Future changes are expected, but not yet.
Will any of the past TANF time count? Or, will their 60 months start over?	If an adult or teen parent head-of-household is granted an extension and converted back to an "AD" on the case, the clock will tick and they will accrue additional months.

RE-ENGAGEMENT	
Does job separation apply to no good cause for quitting a JOBS Plus	NO. It applies to non-subsidized employment only. JOBS Plus is a subsidized employment program. If someone quits a JOBS Plus placement, we would follow the JOBS re-engagement process.
A case is closed and when it is reopened, it has an active DQ. When is the grant reopened if they have to participate for two weeks?	Since two weeks of participation is required as an eligibility factor, we would open the case back to the filing date ONCE the participant completes the participation requirement
In regards to the 2 weeks of participation? – What is the level that they must participate?	The cooperation level is at what the participant can do, not necessarily tied to federal participation. There is no minimum hours that must be completed to meet two weeks cooperation requirements. Plan hours cannot exceed Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) for SW, WE or CP activities. . Case Manager or contractor cannot delay the start of the two weeks.
Changes to DQR process?	No, it will remain the same
Does the 7819 form need to be updated to alert a participant of a penalty to quitting a job while being a TANF recipient?	No changes are needed to the current 7819. It currently outlines that a participant must accept work, maintain work hours and cannot quit employment.

TRAINING	
What is the training Called?	TANF Reinvestment Benefit Cliff TANF Reinvestment Time Limit The remaining training will be submitted soon. https://dhslearn.hr.state.or.us
Training next week – if it is problematic for staff (leadership) what happens if they can't be here.	Training on the 10 th of March is geared towards leads and managers. If someone is not able to make that session, they may take another session within the month of March as several sessions are scheduled.
What if you have concerns around getting to training (self or staff)?	Please refer to the training schedule as there are several sessions that are available.

CARETAKER RELATIVE and DEPRIVATION	
Income test of 185% FPL for non-needy care relatives – will that still be a requirement?	YES
Deprivation – I assume that the new policy will clarify, but, with no deprivation as an eligibility factor, how will we determine when the case is a 2 or 82?	You will look at the household composition to determine if both parents are in the home. If one parent is in the home, you code the case as a Program 2. If more than one, you would code the case as a Program 82. This will also be covered in training.