

## TANF Reinvestment Q&A – March 15<sup>th</sup>

Next phone call is: Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
10am – 11am

EMAIL Address for questions: [TANF.Reinvestment@dhsola.or.us](mailto:TANF.Reinvestment@dhsola.or.us)

Benefits Cliff	
<i>See Q&amp;A from 3/16 that addresses a significant number of questions.</i>	
What are the “Big 3”?	<p>The big three, which is covered in the training sessions, refers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hours per week</li> <li>• Hourly Wage</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Pay date.</li> </ul> <p>Ensure that you obtain the name of the employer for the TRACS Employment Placement (factory)</p>
What if income was just recently received? We will not be closing TANF until 5/1/16 as the first check was received 3/7/16. Should we be closing it 3/31/16?	Follow policy guidance as it is today for anything between now and 4/1/16, which means if you have a report of income that you would not be acting on until after 4/1, then don't act on it now.
We do have the Big 3 for one of the TNC cases. Should we be looking at the new reported income for the TNC coding	Is this income of an ineligible noncitizen? If the income would not be impacting benefits until 4/1 or after then you will want to use the proration version for those future decisions and benefit amounts

Time Limits	
See Q&A from 3/16	

Deprivation	
Does the 428A (Cooperating with Support Enforcement) need to be in the supplement packet?	The form is still a required document. The worker still needs to have a conversation with the client and that conversation needs to be documented.
What is the deprivation list for?	<p>This is a list that will show any child who is coded a NO. These cases need to be reviewed for deprivation. Not every child will have that reason, but as policy changes, we need to review. Remember, you should NOT code a child as a CH until you have had a conversation with the parent. Automatically coding a child with a CH can trigger an overnight action for Support Enforcement to send documents to absent parent. <b>Need to ensure you are checking in around good cause.</b></p>
9 nights a month – If a parent stays in the home all day long but leaves the home to spend the night due to <b>NOHA</b> (Northwest Oregon Housing Authority). We would not consider them part	Deprivation is no longer an eligibility factor for TANF. If that parent is spending a majority of the day at the home but is not spending at least nine nights a month, that parent is not in the household. Remember, this is an example in which

of the HH that they spend the majority of the time in?	the worker will need to have a more in-depth discussion around what the intent of the family is.
How do you address a case where the intent is to be a family but one of the parents is not allowed to be in the home to sleep (Shelter example)	You would assess the situation and if there is the intent, you can look at the case as a two adult household for a limited duration. Limited durations is considered 30 – 60 days.
Grandma and grandpa have a non-needy grant for their grandson. The bio mom moves in can the grandparents still get a non-needy grant?	Depends. Does G-ma and G-pa have custody due to CW involvement? Did mom give up care, control and supervision? Did they adopt the child? This is a case that could be staffed with Central Office.
A mom leaves her boyfriend with two children, only one is his biologically. Can the boyfriend get TANF for the child with whom he has no blood, age or marriage connection?	The Boyfriend can't get TANF benefits for the child who has not relationship to him.
When adding a parent or spouse don't we need to pend for time limit information and a 428A?	We should determine time limits prior to adding the parent to the case.
If a parent is sleeping in the home 2 nights per week X 4.3 = 8.6. Does the worker need to round up? Do we look at how many times the parent will sleep in the home the month they apply?	We would not round up. We would also use actual month. For example the parent sleeps in the home Thursdays and Fridays. Looking at March they would be there 9x. In fact in April it would also be 9x.
You can complete the 7823A over the phone?	Yes but only in situations where there is a reason for doing it over the phone. We should mail and set up appointment to discuss the 7823A and create an appropriate case plan.
Is it the applicants choice to add the parent that cannot stay with them in the shelter? Could they apply as a single parent?	It is the families choice who is included in these situations.
Will the 415F be changing to not ask about visitation of the absent parent?	No plan at this time to change the 415F.
A 415F is not needed to add a person?	We would use the same form we normally use to add a person to the grant.
When someone is legally married do we need to verify and pend for proof of marriage and change of last name?	Only if questionable.
If the absent parent sleeping in the child's home during the day....could that count as 9 nights?	If the other parent is sleeping in the child's home 9x per month they would be included.

<b>Re-Engagement</b>	
What notice would we be sending out for disqualifications beginning 4/1/16? The 7873 on NOTM gives the participant information that would not be correct regarding the	The grant reduction is not changing on 4/1/16. The current reduction will continue until further notice. The 7873 and NOTM are fine.

decrease in the TANF grant since the amount will be different. There is no new notice in the JOBS updates that were sent out.	When the 25/50/75/100 percent reduction is coming we will be sending transmittals and provide training.
What is you find after sanction there is good cause or something has changed and you want to remove the sanction....can you?	Yes, we can always remove a sanction if we later find it should not have been applied. A good example is DV
Will JOBS contractors work with people coded a NO?	If the individual in mandatory they could be receiving services from a JOBS contractor. Some examples would be individuals who have reached the 60 month time limit, are currently disqualified or are serving an IPV.
DQ4 is a full family sanction so for no break in benefits you are opening them with no TANF?	Yes, the family will be opened on TANF with a 0.00 benefit issuance. Example: Tom is rolling to a DQ4 effective 5/1. On 4/30 his TANF closes, on 5/1 he establishes a filing date, meets all eligibly and TANF is opened back to 5/1 with no break in benefits. He will be an ongoing TANF recipient but with a 0.00 benefit issuance due to full family sanction until he has completed his 2 weeks cooperation. Note: the case will need to be coded a P2 case that will go into auto suspense or a 2 / 82 in pend status. Once the 2 weeks cooperation is met the grant would be restored back to the day the cooperation was met.
With a DQ4 we will add benefits when the 2 weeks cooperation is met?	If this is an applicant, TANF benefits would be opened back to the filing date once they complete the two week cooperation period.
So on a DQ4 case it would be a P2 case and then I would use a REST to open TANF once 2 weeks cooperation is met?	yes
Can we get information on how that TRACS case will be coded on a PEND case to allow support payments to go out?	Yes, we will look into it and will have a reference guild available soon.
Why do the people with a break in benefits get to go back to the filing date...that seems unfair?	We use filing date on for all TANF applicants once they clear eligibility. This is a TANF eligibility requirement and would fall in line with all other requirements in relationship to opening TANF. . It is due to filing date rules.
It doesn't seem right that someone could agree to participate on the 40th day. Why?	There could be a reason to extend the 45 days, which is support by policy. We could find out they had good cause. They could also turn around and apply again on the 46th day

<b>Job Quit</b>	
What happens if someone quits their job during a seasonal position?	It's important to note that the <u>Job Quit policy has not changed</u> , rather, it has been extend to those who are employed <b>and</b> on TANF. We do not look at that Job Quit for season employment, limited duration, temp position, etc.
Do we need to verify job loss?	If questionable we could verify. Also we may need to gather additional information to help determine if the individual had good cause for being terminated or quitting
If someone reduces their hours can we apply the employment separation rule?	If they voluntarily reduce their hours (from 100/month) without good cause and are now applying for TANF

If the worker doesn't have timely notice to apply the employment separation rule the participant really doesn't serve a 120 day penalty. Right?	If the worker doesn't have time to send the notice this month they would send it next month. The 120 days if from the date the individual left the job. This point in time wouldn't change so the worker would need to be aware of the 120 days.

General Questions	
Will the 415F be new?	No.

Training	
Will there be additional training dates?	Yes, the training unit is working on establishing additional dates into the month of April. Please watch for any emails that comes from the Self Sufficiency Training Unit.

Pending for additional clarification	
It has been noted that the CMs will keep the cases that go OVI for 6 months. Do you know the reasoning for the 6 month time, instead of maybe the CMs keeping them for 5 months (TBA time period)? The process would be a bit more cohesive.	<i>More clarification will be provided</i>
Since case managers have to hold the case for an additional six months following the closure of TANF, what is the expectation for ongoing contact?	<i>Answer being clarified</i>
Ask of clarification regarding the workload impact for CM's by holding cases longer than three months. This will also impact the focus on participation.	<i>Answer being clarified</i>
Since there is an anticipated increase in cases that will be working and remaining on TANF, more funds will be pulled from the ERDC program (using CCBs vs. JCCB's), how will this impact the local districts support services?	<i>Working on this action item.</i>
It seems like we are returning to an older model of closing down the case too soon. Why?	<i>Answer being clarified</i>
Will TRACS let you open a plan, add a step and issue payments on a PEND UCMS case? We've tried it and it won't work.	<i>Answer being clarified</i>
