

Policy Transmittal

Office of Self-Sufficiency Programs



Annette Palmer, Self-Sufficiency TANF Program Manager

Authorized signature

Number: SS-PT-21-026

Issue date: 10/15/2021

Updated: 11/09/2021

Topic: Cash Payments

Due date: 10/15/2021

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New policy
 Policy change
 Policy clarification
 Executive letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual update
 Other:

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: Type B | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Policy/rule title: | TANF Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds (PEAF) | | |
| Policy/rule number(s): | 461-135-0220 | Release number: | |
| Effective date: | 10/1/2021 | Expiration date: | |
| References: | | | |
| Web address: | | | |

Transmittal updated to add the payment amount.

Discussion/interpretation:

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) was allotted money through the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds (PEAF) under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). These funds were granted specifically to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to provide emergency funds to families.

Families that were determined eligible and received TANF benefits in the month of September 2021 received a one-time cash payment on Nov. 5, 2021 in the amount of \$735. The payment was issued through the same method the family receives their TANF grant. The payment will display under 'Benefit Details' in ONE. 'Benefit Program' and 'Issuance Reason' will both display 'ARPA'. The amount issued was determined based on the total statewide TANF caseload for the month of September 2021. A notice was sent out to families advising of the payment, however some families may have received the payment prior to the notice.

These payments are considered non-recurring short-term (NRST) and do not meet the definition of assistance, therefore they are not considered a TANF grant. The payment will not affect their TANF grant or other assistance they may receive. Staff should **not** code these payments as income in ONE.

The payments are not subject to overpayment and not subject to recoupment by Division of Child Support.

Refugees with dependent children receive TANF, not REF cash. Refugees or other individuals with an eligible immigration status under the Refugee Program that were determined eligible and received TANF benefits in the month of September 2021 received a one-time cash payment. REF Cash cases are not eligible for these payments.

Implementation/transition instructions:

Training/communication plan: Information was shared via this transmittal and shared during the policy Q&A call.

Local/branch action required: Ensure applications are processed timely so families eligible for TANF in the month of September 2021 are eligible for the NRST. Applications with a September filing date not processed prior to November 1, 2021 will not receive the NRST.

Central office action required:

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Filing instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Contact(s): TANF Policy | |
| Phone: | Fax: |
| Email: TANF.Policy@dhsosha.state.or.us | |