

## XII. SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF STATE PROGRAMS

Each State must submit a plan to the Secretary that outlines how it intends to conduct a program in all political subdivisions of the State (not necessarily in a uniform manner) that provides cash aid to needy families with (or expecting) children and provides parents with job preparation, work, and support services. States may determine what benefit levels to set and what categories of families are eligible. States have the flexibility to design and operate a program that best matches their residents' needs and helps families gain and maintain self-sufficiency.

The information in the tables in this chapter was based on State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) plans and amendments, and has been reviewed by each State. The information reflects each State's program as of June 2002.

In this chapter HHS has organized the multitude of policy choices into some common themes: (1) requiring work and making work pay; (2) encouraging personal responsibility; (3) time limiting assistance; and (4) other key policies.

### **I. Requiring Work and Making Work Pay**

The chart below (Table 12:1) outlines how each State has designed its TANF program.

<b>Table 12:1</b>				
<b>State TANF Implementation</b>				
<b>State</b>	<b>Effective Date Of New Plan</b>	<b>Form of Administration</b>	<b>State or County Discretion</b>	
			<b>Eligibility and Benefits</b>	<b>Available Services</b>
Alabama	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Alaska	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Arizona	October 1, 1999	State	State <sup>1</sup>	State <sup>1</sup>
Arkansas	December 16, 1999	State	State	State
California	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	State
Colorado	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	County <sup>2</sup>	County
Connecticut	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Delaware	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Dist. of Col.	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Florida	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Georgia	October 1, 1999	State	State	County
Hawaii	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
(continued...)				

**Table 12:1 (cont.)**

**State TANF Implementation**

State	Effective Date Of New Plan	Form of Administration	State or County Discretion	
			Eligibility and Benefits	Available Services
Idaho	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Illinois	October 1, 2001	State	State	State
Indiana	October 1, 1999	State	State	County
Iowa	October 1, 2001	State	State	County
Kansas	October 1, 1999	State	State	County
Kentucky	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Louisiana	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Maine	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Maryland	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	County
Massachusetts	October 1, 1998	State	State	State
Michigan	October 1, 2000	State	State	County
Minnesota	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	County	State
Mississippi	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Missouri	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Montana	January 1, 2000	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	State
Nebraska	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Nevada	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
New Hampshire	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
New Jersey	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	State
New Mexico	December 23, 1999	State	State	State
New York	November 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County <sup>3</sup> Administered	State	County
North Carolina	October 1, 1999	County	County <sup>4</sup>	County
North Dakota	October 1, 2001	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	State <sup>5</sup>
Ohio	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	State <sup>6</sup>	County
Oklahoma	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Oregon	October 1, 1999	State Supervised/ County Administered	State	County
Pennsylvania	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Rhode Island	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
South Carolina	October 1, 1999	State	County	State
South Dakota	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Tennessee	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Texas	October 1, 2001	State	State	County
Utah	October 1, 1999	State	State	State
Vermont	October 1, 2001	State	State	State
(continued...)				

**Table 12:1 (cont.)**

**State TANF Implementation**

State	Effective Date Of New Plan	Form of Administration	State or County Discretion	
			Eligibility and Benefits	Available Services
Virginia	January 1, 2000	County	State	State
Washington	December 15, 1999	State	State	State
West Virginia	January 1, 2000	State	State	State
Wisconsin	October 1, 1998	County	State	State
Wyoming	October 1, 1999	State	State	State

[1] Waivers in some areas of the State.

[2] Increases only

[3] State Supervised with maximum flexibility.

[4] In certain areas.

[5] Legislative change allows different programs in the State.

[6] Counties are allowed discretion with respect to the eligibility requirements for receipt of TANF assistance.

## **Benefit Levels**

TANF Provision: States are free to set the benefit levels that apply under their TANF programs. The majority of States have not raised benefit levels since July 1995, and in a few States benefit levels have declined. (See Table 12:2).

<b>Table 12:2</b>						
<b>Benefit Levels for Family of 3 (1 adult, 2 children) with No Income<sup>1</sup></b>						
<b>July 1995-June 2001</b>						
<b>State</b>	<b>Jul-95</b>	<b>Mar-98</b>	<b>Mar-99</b>	<b>Jan-00</b>	<b>Jun-01</b>	<b>June 2001/ July 1995<sup>2</sup></b>
Alabama	\$164	\$164	\$164	\$164	\$164	1
Alaska	\$923	\$923	\$923	\$923	\$923	1
Arizona	\$347	\$347	\$347	\$347	\$347	1
Arkansas	\$204	\$204	\$204	\$204	\$204	1
California <sup>3</sup>	\$607	\$565/\$538	\$611/\$582	\$626/\$596	\$645/\$614	1.06/1.01
Colorado	\$356	\$356	\$356	\$356	\$356	1
Connecticut	\$543	\$543	\$543	\$543	\$543	1
Delaware	\$338	\$388	\$338	\$338	\$338	1
Dist. of Col.	\$420	\$379	\$379	\$379	\$379	0.9
Florida	\$303	\$303	\$303	\$303	\$303	1
Georgia	\$280	\$280	\$280	\$280	\$280	1
Hawaii <sup>4</sup>	\$712	\$712/\$570	\$712/\$570	\$712/\$570	\$712/\$570	1.00/0.80
Idaho	\$317	\$276	\$276	\$293	\$293	0.92
Illinois	\$377	\$377	\$377	\$377	\$377	1
Indiana	\$288	\$288	\$288	\$288	\$288	1
Iowa	\$426	\$426	\$426	\$426	\$426	1
Kansas	\$403	\$403	\$403	\$403	\$403	1
Kentucky	\$228	\$262	\$262	\$262	\$262	1.15
Louisiana	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$240	1.26
Maine	\$418	\$418	\$439	\$461	\$461	1.1
Maryland	\$377	\$388	\$399	\$417	\$439	1.16
Massachusetts	\$579	\$579	\$579	\$579	\$633	1.09
Michigan	\$459	\$459	\$459	\$459	\$459	1
Minnesota	\$532	\$532	\$532	\$532	\$532	1.01
Mississippi	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$170	\$170	1.42
Missouri	\$292	\$292	\$292	\$292	\$292	1
Montana	\$401	\$450	\$461	\$469	\$494 <sup>5</sup>	1.23
Nebraska	\$364	\$364	\$364	\$364	\$364	1
Nevada <sup>9, 10</sup>	\$348	\$348	\$348	\$348	\$348	1
New Hampshire	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$575	\$600	1.09
New Jersey	\$424	\$424	\$424	\$424	\$424	1
New Mexico <sup>6</sup>	\$304	\$389	\$389	\$389	\$389	1.28
New York <sup>7</sup>	\$577	\$577	\$577	\$577	\$577	1
North Carolina	\$272	\$272	\$272	\$272	\$272	1
North Dakota	\$431	\$457	\$457	\$457	\$457	1.06
Ohio	\$341	\$341	\$362	\$373	\$373	1.09
Oklahoma	\$307	\$292	\$292	\$292	\$292	0.95

(continued...)

<b>Table 12:2 (cont.)</b>						
<b>Benefit Levels for Family of 3 (1 adult, 2 children) with No Income<sup>1</sup></b>						
<b>July 1995-June 2001</b>						
<b>State</b>	<b>Jul-95</b>	<b>Mar-98</b>	<b>Mar-99</b>	<b>Jan-00</b>	<b>Jun-01</b>	<b>June 2001/ July 1995<sup>2</sup></b>
Oregon	\$460	\$460	\$460	\$460	\$460	1
Pennsylvania	\$403	\$403	\$403	\$403	\$403	1
Rhode Island	\$554	\$554	\$554	\$554	\$554	1
South Carolina	\$200	\$200	\$201	\$203	\$203	1.02
South Dakota	\$430	\$430	\$430	\$430	\$430	1
Tennessee	\$185	\$185	\$185	\$185	\$185	1
Texas	\$188	\$188	\$188	\$201	\$201	1.07
Utah	\$426	\$426	\$451	\$451	\$451	1.06
Vermont	\$616	\$611	\$617	\$622	\$629	1.02
Virginia	\$291	\$291	\$291	\$291	\$320	1.1
Washington	\$546	\$546	\$546	\$546	\$546	1
West Virginia	\$253	\$253	\$278	\$328	\$453	1.79
Wisconsin <sup>8</sup>	\$518	\$673	\$673	\$673	\$673	1.3
Wyoming	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	1

[1] In some States benefits vary by regions. Benefits are shown for the region with the largest TANF caseload.

[2] This column presents the ratio between the two benefit levels. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Urban Consumers increased 18.1% over this time period.

Thus, a State's benefit levels kept up with inflation only if the number in this column is 1.18 or higher.

[3] California has a two-tiered benefit system for exempt and non-exempt recipients and for urban and rural areas.

[4] In December 1996, Hawaii implemented a policy that provides the higher benefit amount to all families for two months and to exempt families (e.g. child-only cases) on an ongoing basis. Non-exempt families face a lower benefit amount after two months on assistance.

[5] Effective 7/1/01.

[6] New Mexico provided a \$100 housing subsidy April 1, 1998 for some TANF recipients. The housing subsidy was eliminated on June 1, 2001 based on whether the family received government subsidized housing.

[7] New York has a benefit of \$703 in Suffolk County.

[8] Wisconsin has a benefit of \$688 for a family in its transition program (primarily adults with disabilities).

[9] Effective 7/1/01, Nevada implemented a policy change that pays \$187 more for non-needy caretaker (NNCT) cases. A family of three for a NNCT case gets \$535.

[10] Effective 10/1/01, Nevada implemented a Kinship Care program that pays a cash grant equal to 90% of Foster Care cases to children who are under the custody of certain relatives that qualify for the program.

A child aged 0-12 years gets \$534 and children 13 years or older receive \$616 per child. A Kinship Care family of three could receive a grant ranging from \$1068 - \$1232, depending upon the ages of the children.

## **Time Frame for Work**

TANF Provision: Under TANF, parents or caretakers must engage in work (as defined by the State) when determined ready, or no later than 24 months, whichever is earlier. (See Table 12:3).

TANF Provision: States have the option to exempt single parents with children up to one year of age from work requirements, and to disregard them from the calculation of the work participation rates for a cumulative lifetime total of 12 months. States have the flexibility to provide exemptions to other families. However, all other families with an adult or minor head of household are included in the State's participation rate calculations. States that received waivers prior to enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) may continue exemption policies approved under those waivers for the duration of the waiver period. Such States are indicated with an asterisk in Table 12:3. Map 12:1 displays State's choices.

<b>Work Requirements</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Number of Months before Required to Work</b>	<b>Caring for a Young Child (Age of Child for Exemption) 1</b>
Alabama	Immediate	3 months
Alaska	24	1 year
Arizona*	Immediate	1 year
Arkansas	Immediate	3 months
California	Immediate	6 months <sup>2</sup>
Colorado	24	No automatic exemption <sup>3</sup>
Connecticut	Immediate	1 year
Delaware*	Immediate	13 weeks
Dist. of Col.	Immediate	1 year
Florida	Immediate	3 months
Georgia	24	1 year
Hawaii*	24	6 months
Idaho	Immediate	13 weeks
Illinois	Immediate	1 year
Indiana	Immediate	1 year
Iowa	Immediate	No automatic exemption
Kansas*	24	1 year
Kentucky	24	1 year
Louisiana	24	1 year
Maine	Immediate	1 year
Maryland	Immediate	1 year
Massachusetts*	2	6 years
Michigan	2	3 months
Minnesota*	Immediate	1 year
Mississippi	Immediate	1 year
(continued...)		

<b>Table 12:3 (cont.)</b>		
<b>Work Requirements</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Number of Months before Required to Work</b>	<b>Caring for a Young Child (Age of Child for Exemption) 1</b>
Missouri	24	1 year <sup>4</sup>
Montana*	Immediate	No automatic exemption
Nebraska*	Immediate	12 weeks
Nevada	Immediate	1 year
New Hampshire	Immediate	2 years <sup>5</sup>
New Jersey	24	12 weeks
New Mexico	3	1 year
New York	Immediate	3 months <sup>6</sup>
North Carolina	3	1 year
North Dakota	Immediate	4 months
Ohio*	Immediate	N/A <sup>7</sup>
Oklahoma	Immediate	3 months
Oregon*	Immediate	3 months <sup>8</sup>
Pennsylvania	Immediate	1 year <sup>9</sup>
Rhode Island	2	1 year
South Carolina*	Immediate	1 year
South Dakota	Immediate	12 weeks
Tennessee*	Immediate	4 months
Texas	Immediate	1 year
Utah	Immediate	No automatic exemption
Vermont	30	18 months <sup>10</sup>
Virginia*	3	18 months
Washington	Immediate	3 months
West Virginia	Immediate	1 year
Wisconsin	Immediate	12 weeks
Wyoming	Immediate	3 months

\*State has a work requirement waiver.

[1] A sanction can not be imposed on a single custodial parent caring for a child who has not attained 6 years of age, if child care is unavailable.

[2] California counties have discretion to set the age of the exemption for caring for a young child, between the ages of 12 weeks and 1 year on a case-by-case basis.

[3] At county discretion.

[4] The child must be under 12 months of age, but there is no limit on the length of the exemption if more than one birth is involved. After 12 months, the cash grant is paid out of MOE.

[5] If a child is conceived while on assistance, then the age is 1 year.

[6] New York counties have discretion to increase the age of the exemption for caring for a young child up to 1 year.

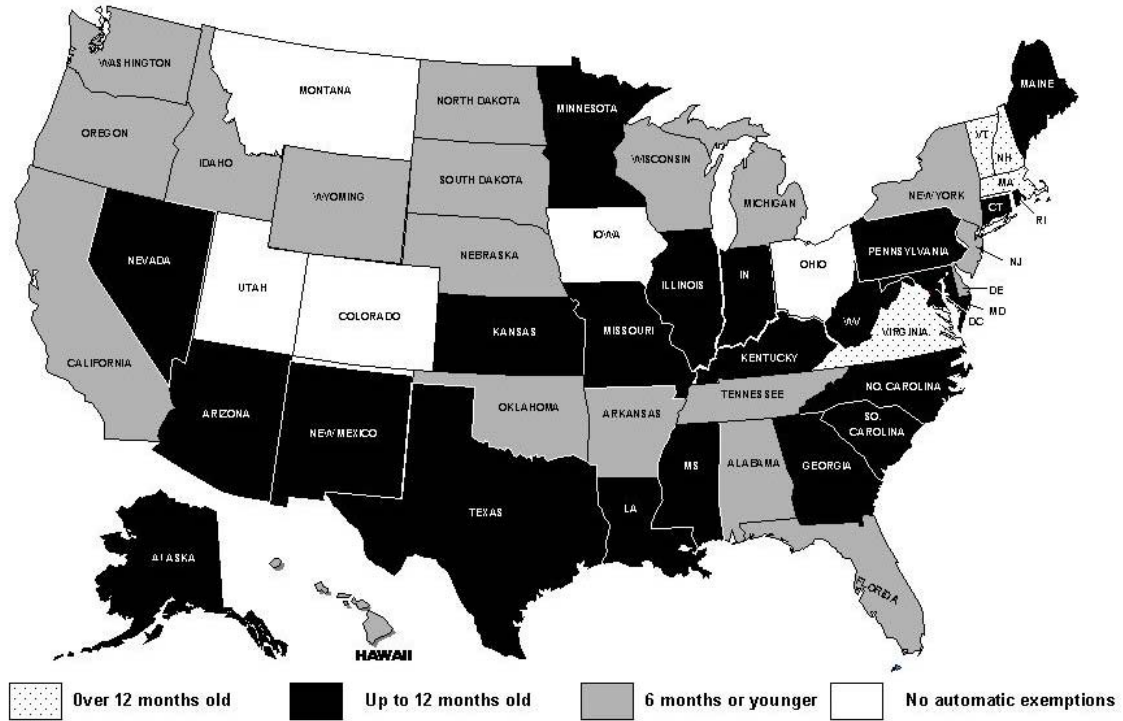
[7] Ohio counties have discretion to provide exemptions from work requirements.

[8] Oregon's exemption is for a parent caring for a child 90 days after giving birth.

[9] In a parent's lifetime.

[10] Within 2 months of reaching the time limit, Vermont only exempts from work requirements families with a child under age 6 months and families where needed support services are unavailable.

**Map 12.1 Age of Youngest Child Exemption from Work Requirement**





**States Claiming Continuing Waiver Inconsistencies with Respect To Work Requirements**

A State may have received a waiver to modify its work requirements under the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children program (AFDC) program. To the extent that the Federal TANF work requirements are inconsistent with the State's waiver work requirements, the State may be allowed to follow its approved waiver policy rather than the Federal TANF policy, until expiration of the waiver. The TANF final rules required States to file a certification with HHS by October 1, 1999, if they intended to follow inconsistent waiver policies. (See Table 12:4).

<b>Table 12:4</b>		
<b>Waiver Rules</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Waiver Duration</b>	<b>Waiver Content</b>
Arizona	September 30, 2002	Sanctions
Connecticut	September 30, 2001	JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours
Delaware	September 30, 2002	Sanctions, Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours—subset of cases, Job Search, Education, All Hours
Hawaii	September 30, 2004	Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours--subset of Cases), JOBS, Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
Indiana	March 31, 2002	JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours
Kansas	September 30, 2003	Job Search
Massachusetts	September 30, 2005	Sanctions, Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours), JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours
Minnesota	September 30, 2002	JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours
Montana	December 31, 2003	Sanctions (subset of cases, JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours (subset of cases)
Nebraska	June 30, 2003	Work Participation Rate (Exemption), Job Search, Education, All Hours
New Hampshire	March 31, 2002	JOBS, Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
Ohio	June 30, 2003	Sanctions and Work Participation Rate (Exemption)--All Waiver Conditions Limited to Pregnant and Parenting Teens
Oregon	June 30, 2003	Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours), JOBS, Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
South Carolina	September 30, 2003	Work Participation Rate (Exemption), JOBS, Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
Tennessee	June 30, 2007	Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours--subset of cases), Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
Texas	March 31, 2002	Additional Job Search, Education, All Hours
Vermont	June 30, 2001	Work Participation Rate (Exemption)
Virginia	June 30, 2003	Work Participation Rate (Exemption) and (Hours--subset of cases), JOBS, Job Search, Education, All Hours

## Treatment of Earnings

**TANF Provision:** PRWORA does not specify how States should treat earnings in determining families' eligibility for TANF assistance. Thus, States have the flexibility to establish the income eligibility rules that best meet their residents' needs. However, as a means to help families transition from welfare to work and to help make work pay, all States disregard a portion of a family's earned income when determining benefit levels, and most States also disregard a portion of earned income in determining eligibility. (See Table 12:5).

<b>Table 12:5</b>		
<b>Treatment of Earnings</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Portion of Applicant's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Eligibility Determination</b>	<b>Portion of Recipient's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Benefit Determination</b>
Alabama	20% <sup>1</sup>	100% for 3 months <sup>2</sup> 20% in subsequent months
Alaska	\$90	\$150 and 33% of the remainder for 12 months \$150 and 25% of the remainder for 12 months \$150 and 20% of the remainder for 12 months \$150 and 15% of the remainder for 12 months \$150 and 10% of the remainder for 12 months
Arizona	\$90 and 30% of the remainder	\$90 and 30% of the remainder
Arkansas	20%	20% and 60% of the remainder
California	\$90	\$225 and 50% of the remainder
Colorado	90 <sup>3</sup>	60% for 12 months <sup>4</sup> \$90, \$30+1/3, and \$30 are applied in subsequent months <sup>4</sup>
Connecticut	\$90	100% until earnings exceed Federal poverty level
Delaware	\$90	\$120 and 33.3% of the remainder for 4 months \$120 for the next 8 months \$90 in subsequent months
Dist. of Col.	\$160	\$160 and 66.7% of the remainder
Florida	\$90	\$200 and 50% of the remainder
Georgia	\$90	\$120 and 33.3% of the remainder for 4 months \$120 for the next 8 months \$90 in subsequent months
Hawaii	20%	20%, then \$200, then 36% of the remainder
Idaho	60%	60%
Illinois	\$90	67%
Indiana	\$90	\$120 and 33.3% of the remainder for 4 months \$120 for the next 8 months \$90 in subsequent months
Iowa	20% and 50% of the remainder	20% and 50% of the remainder
Kansas	\$90	\$90 and 40% of the remainder
(continued...)		

<b>Table 12:5 (cont.)</b>		
<b>Treatment of Earnings</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Portion of Applicant's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Eligibility Determination</b>	<b>Portion of Recipient's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Benefit Determination</b>
Kentucky	\$120 and 33% of the remainder	100% for 2 months, (one time only) \$120 and 33.3% of the remainder for 4 months \$120 for the next 8 months \$90 in subsequent months
Louisiana	\$120	\$120 plus \$900 for 6 months \$120 in subsequent months
Maine	\$108 and 50% of the remainder	\$108 and 50% of the remainder
Maryland	20%	35%
Massachusetts	None	\$120 and 50% of remainder for non-exempt, \$120 and 33.3% of remainder for exempt
Michigan	\$200 and 20% of the remainder	\$200 and 20% of the remainder
Minnesota	18%	38%
Mississippi	\$90	100% for 6 months for some families <sup>5</sup> \$90 in other months
Missouri	None	\$90, plus 33.3% of remainder if employed when approved for assistance 67% and \$90 of the remainder for 12 months \$90 in subsequent months
Montana	\$200 and 25% of remainder	\$200 and 25% of remainder
Nebraska	20%	20%
Nevada	\$90 or 20%, whichever is greater	100% for 3 months 50% for the next 9 months Greater of \$90 or 20% in subsequent months
New Hampshire	20%	50%
New Jersey	100% for 1 month	None 50% in subsequent months
New Mexico	\$125 and 50% of the remainder for single parent household \$225/each parent and 50% of the remainder for two parent household	\$125 and 50% of the remainder for single parent households \$225/each parent and 50% of the remainder for two parent households 27.5% in subsequent months

(continued...)

<b>Table 12:5 (cont.)</b>		
<b>Treatment of Earnings</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Portion of Applicant's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Eligibility Determination</b>	<b>Portion of Recipient's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Benefit Determination</b>
North Dakota	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 50% of the "employment incentive limit" for 8 months <sup>6</sup>	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 50% of the "employment incentive limit" for 8 months <sup>6</sup>
	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 30% of the "employment incentive limit" for 2 months	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 30% of the "employment incentive limit" for 2 months
	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 10% of the "employment incentive limit" for 2 months	Greater of \$90 or 27%, and 10% of the "employment incentive limit" for 2 months
	Greater of \$90 or 27% in subsequent months	Greater of \$90 or 27% in subsequent months
Ohio	\$250 & 50% of the remainder if the applicant received TANF in one of the previous four months prior to application.	\$250 and 50% of the remainder
Oklahoma	\$120 and 50% of the remainder	\$120 and 50% of the remainder
Oregon	50%	50%
Pennsylvania	50%	50%
Rhode Island	\$170 and 50% of the remainder	\$170 and 50% of the remainder
South Carolina	None	50% for 4 months \$100 in subsequent months
South Dakota	\$90 and 20% of the remainder	\$90 and 20% of the remainder
Tennessee	\$150	\$150
Texas	\$120 and 33.3% of the remainder	\$120 and 90% of the remainder for 4 months \$120 in subsequent months
Utah	\$100 and 50% of the remainder	\$100 and 50% of the remainder
Vermont	\$90	\$150 and 25% of the remainder
Virginia <sup>7</sup>	\$90	\$120 and 33.3% of the remainder for 4 months <sup>8</sup> \$120 for the next 8 months \$90 in subsequent months
(continued...)		

<b>Table 12:5 (cont.)</b>		
<b>Treatment of Earnings</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Portion of Applicant's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Eligibility Determination</b>	<b>Portion of Recipient's Earnings That Is Disregarded in Benefit Determination</b>
Washington	50%	50%
West Virginia	60%	60%
Wisconsin	None	None
Wyoming	\$200	\$200

[1] Trial budget worked and, if eligible, earnings are disregarded for 3 months.

[2] If reported accurately and timely.

[3] If eligible, Colorado allows for an earned income deduction of 2/3 of the gross earnings in determining payment for ongoing Colorado Works/TANF participants, for 12 cumulative months.

[4] After using the 2/3 disregard for 12 cumulative months, if the household continues to be eligible the \$90, \$30+1/3 and \$30 disregards are applied to determine payment.

[5] The 100% disregard is available only if families obtain full time employment within 30 days of initial TANF receipt or within 30 days following the start of participation in work activities.

[6] The maximum "Employment incentive limit" is \$184.

[7] Participants in VIEW can earn up to the poverty level and still receive TANF. Two-parent families that participate in VIEW can earn up to 150% of the poverty limit and still receive TANF.

[8] The benefit rules for participants in Virginia's welfare program (i.e. those subject to the State time limit) allow families to continue receiving benefits until countable earned income (after the work expense deduction and earned income disregard) reaches the Federal poverty line. This is done through "fill-the-gap" budgeting and not through an earned income disregard.

## **Resource Limits**

**TANF Provision:** PRWORA does not specify the total resource level that States are to use to determine eligibility for families. States have the flexibility to set the resource level to determine eligibility that best meets the needs of their residents. (See Table 12:6).

**TANF Provision:** PRWORA does not specify the vehicle asset level that States are to use under TANF. States have the flexibility to set the vehicle asset limit at the level that best meets their residents' needs. (See Table 12:6).

<b>Table 12:6</b>		
<b>Resource Limits</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Asset Level</b>	<b>Primary Vehicle Asset Level<sup>1</sup></b>
Alabama	\$2000; \$3000 if assistance unit contains a member age 60 or over.	Value excluded
Alaska	\$2000; \$3000 if household includes someone over age 60	Value excluded
Arizona	\$2,000	Value excluded
Arkansas	\$3,000	Value excluded
California	\$2,000	Fair market value up to \$4,650; Vehicle disregarded if used to transport disabled family members or for work and training.
	\$3,000 if household includes a disabled or aged recipient	
Colorado	\$2,000	Value excluded
Connecticut	\$3,000	Equity value up to \$9,500
Delaware	\$1,000	Equity value up to \$4,650
Dist. of Col.	\$2,000	Value excluded
Florida	\$2,000	All cars can not exceed a combined value of \$8,500, plus any vehicle needed to transport disabled family member.
Georgia	\$1,000	Equity value up to \$4,650
Hawaii	\$5,000	Value excluded
Idaho	\$2,000	Fair market value up to \$4,650
Illinois	1 person: \$2,000	Value excluded
	2 person: \$3,000	
Indiana	Applicant: \$1,000	Equity value up to \$5,000
	Recipient: \$1,500; plus \$50 for each additional person	
Iowa	Applicant: \$2,000	Value up to \$4,042 excluded
	Recipient: \$5,000	
Kansas	\$2,000	Value excluded
Kentucky	\$2,000	Value excluded
Louisiana	\$2,000	Equity value up to \$10,000
Maine	\$2,000	Value excluded
(continued...)		

**Table 12:6 (cont.)**

**Resource Limits**

<b>State</b>	<b>Asset Level</b>	<b>Primary Vehicle Asset Level<sup>1</sup></b>
Maryland	\$2,000	Value excluded
Massachusetts	\$2,500	Fair market value up to \$10,000, plus equity up to \$5,000
Michigan	\$3,000	Value excluded
Minnesota	Applicant: \$2,000	Loan value up to \$7,500
	Recipient: \$5,000	
Mississippi	\$2,000	Value excluded
Missouri	Applicant: \$1,000	Value excluded
	Recipient: \$5,000	
Montana	\$3,000	Vehicle with highest equity value excluded
Nebraska	1 person: \$4,000	Value excluded
	2 or more: \$6,000	
Nevada	\$2,000	Value excluded
New Hampshire	Applicant: \$1,000	Value excluded
	Recipient: \$2,000	
New Jersey	\$2,000	Value up to \$9,500
New Mexico	\$1,500 in liquid resources or \$2,000 in non-liquid resources	Value excluded for one vehicle where public transportation is available. In other areas without public transportation, one car is excluded for each participant engaged in work.
New York	\$2,000	Equity value up to \$4,650, or \$9300 if working
North Carolina	\$3,000	Value excluded
North Dakota <sup>2</sup>	1 person: \$5,000	Value excluded
	2 or more: \$8,000	
Ohio	No limit.	Value excluded
Oklahoma	\$1,000	Equity value up to \$5,000
Oregon	Progressing in IRP: \$10,000	Value up to \$10,000
	All others: \$2,500	
Pennsylvania	\$1,000	Value excluded
Rhode Island	\$1,000	Value up to \$4,650
South Carolina	\$2,500	Value excluded
South Dakota	\$2,000	Value excluded
Tennessee	\$2,000	Equity value up to \$4,600
Texas	\$2,000, or \$3,000 if a family member is elderly or disabled.	Fair market value up to \$4,650 <sup>3</sup>
Utah	\$2,000	Equity value up to \$8,000
Vermont	\$1,000	Value excluded
Virginia	\$1,000	Fair market value up to \$7,500
Washington	Applicant: \$1,000	Value up to \$5,000
	Recipient: \$4,000	
(continued...)		

**Table 12:6 (cont.)**

**Resource Limits**

<b>State</b>	<b>Asset Level</b>	<b>Primary Vehicle Asset Level<sup>1</sup></b>
West Virginia	\$2,000	Value excluded
Wisconsin	\$2,500	Equity value up to \$10,000
Wyoming	\$2,500	Value up to \$12,000

[1] In addition, several States disregard automobiles if used to transport disabled family members or for work and training.

[2] North Dakota will decrease to \$3000 for one person and \$6000 for two persons on 7/01/01.

[3] Texas also exempts income-producing vehicles.



## **II. Encouraging Personal Responsibility**

### *Individual Development Accounts*

**TANF Provision:** The TANF statute specifically authorizes States to fund Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) established by TANF-eligible individuals. IDAs are restricted savings accounts that allow individuals to accumulate savings that can be used for postsecondary educational expenses, first home purchase, or business capitalization. The IDA program in the TANF statute allows individuals to contribute to an IDA such amounts as are derived only from earned income (while other IDAs might allow contributions to come from any source of income). Funds in a TANF IDA (including earned interest) are disregarded in determining eligibility and benefits in any program that uses financial considerations in such determinations.

Because of the funding flexibility under TANF, States can also use Federal TANF or State MOE funds to fund IDAs established under another authority. The following data are not limited to IDAs authorized under the specific provision in the TANF statute. (See Table 12:7).

<b>Table 12:7</b>							
<b>Individual Development Accounts</b>							
<b>State</b>	<b>Individual Development Accounts (Limit)</b>	<b>A Family's IDA Contribution is Matched (Match Rate)</b>	<b>Post-Second-ary Education</b>	<b>First Home Purchase</b>	<b>Business Capitali-zation</b>	<b>Medical Expense</b>	<b>Other</b>
Arizona	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>1</sup>
	\$9,000						
Arkansas	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>2</sup>
	\$2,000 per person up to \$4,000 maximum	(3:1)					
California	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colorado	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	(no limit)	(County Option)					
Connecticut	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
	(no limit)						
Delaware	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES, on a case by case basis <sup>3</sup>
	\$5,000						
Dist. of Col.	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(continued...)							

Table 12:7 (cont.)

Individual Development Accounts

State	Individual Development Accounts (Limit)	A Family's IDA Contribution is Matched (Match Rate)	Post-Secondary Education	First Home Purchase	Business Capitalization	Medical Expense	Other
Georgia	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$5,000						
Hawaii	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Illinois	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>1,2</sup>
	Max matched \$1,000	(1:1)					
Indiana	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>1</sup>
	(no limit)	(3:1 up to \$300/year)					
Iowa	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES <sup>1,4</sup>
	\$50,000	15-25%					
Kansas	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>5</sup>
	(No Limit)						
Kentucky	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>6</sup>
	\$5,000						
Louisiana	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES <sup>1,7</sup>
	\$6,000						
Maine	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES <sup>2,4,8</sup>
	\$10,000 plus interest	(varies)					
Maryland	YES <sup>9</sup>	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Massachusetts	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Michigan	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$1,000	(up to 3:1 depending on purpose)					
Minnesota	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$3,000	(3:1)					
Mississippi	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Montana	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	(no limit)	(2:1 up to \$4,000)					
Nebraska	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nevada	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
New Hampshire	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
New Jersey	YES <sup>10</sup>	(1:1)	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>11</sup>

(continued...)

Table 12:7 (cont.)

Individual Development Accounts

State	Individual Development Accounts (Limit)	A Family's IDA Contribution is Matched (Match Rate)	Post-Secondary Education	First Home Purchase	Business Capitalization	Medical Expense	Other
New Mexico	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>12</sup>
	\$1,500						
New York	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	(no limit)						
North Carolina	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$2,000						
North Dakota	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	YES	County Discretion (up to 2:1)	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$10,000						
Oklahoma	YES	YES <sup>13</sup>	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$2,000						
Oregon	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
	(no limit)						
Pennsylvania	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
	\$2,500						
South Carolina	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>1</sup>
	\$10,000						
South Dakota	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennessee	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>3</sup>
	\$5,000						
Texas	YES	YES <sup>14</sup>	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	\$10,000						
Utah	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	(\$500) <sup>15</sup>						
Virginia	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>1,12</sup>
	\$5,000						

(continued...)

Table 12:7 (cont.)

Individual Development Accounts

State	Individual Development Accounts (Limit)	A Family's IDA Contribution is Matched (Match Rate)	Post-Secondary Education	First Home Purchase	Business Capitalization	Medical Expense	Other
Washington	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
	client \$2,000, contractor \$4000--max \$6000	2:1 up to \$4,000					
West Virginia	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
	(county option)						
Wyoming	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

[1] Training program expenses

[2] Purchase or repair of automobile.

[3] Approved reasons include funds to be used for self-sufficiency reasons.

[4] Work related vehicle/transportation costs.(continued...)

[5] Assistance Technology Savings

[6] Emergency repairs to home.

[7] Work related clothing/tools/equipment.

[8] Certain emergency expenses

[9] In three counties.

[10] Up to \$1500 per year for 3 years.

[11] Educational expenses.

[12] Education expenses of dependents.

[13] For current recipients or people who have been recipients at some time since October 1,1996: For persons with income in the preceding year that is less than or equal to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level there is a \$1.00 match from TANF funds not to exceed a \$500 match per year for a period of up to 4 years. For persons with income that is more than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level or less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level then the match is 75 cents for each \$1.00. For persons with more than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level or less than or equal to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level the match is 50 cents for each \$1.00

[14] Texas allows an individual up to \$2000 in deposits matched by TANF funds each year (per account per year of income). There is no limit on matched funds from other sources. (4:1 for initial deposit; 1:1 for added deposit.

[15] For an individual for a calendar year

\$1000 for a family. Lifetime limit maximum is \$2000 for an individual and \$4000 for a family.

**Initial Sanctions for Not Complying with Work Requirements**

**TANF Provision:** If an individual in a family receiving assistance refuses to engage in required work, a State has the option to either reduce or terminate the amount of assistance payable to the family, subject to good cause. (See Table 12:8).

<b>Table 12:8</b>		
<b>Sanction Policies for Noncompliance with Work Requirements</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>First: Partial or Full Sanction</b>	<b>First: Minimum Length of Sanction</b>
Alabama <sup>1</sup>	Full	1 month <sup>1</sup>
Alaska <sup>2</sup>	Partial	until compliance
Arizona	Partial	1 month
Arkansas <sup>3</sup>	Partial	until compliance
California	Partial	until compliance
Colorado	Partial	1-3 months (county option)
Connecticut	Partial	3 months
Delaware	Partial	until compliance or 2 months; then increments to next sanction level.
Dist. of Col.	Partial	1 month
Florida	Full	until compliance
Georgia	Partial	up to 3 months
Hawaii	Full	until compliance
Idaho	Full	1 month
Illinois	Partial	until compliance
Indiana	Partial	2 months
Iowa	Full	until compliance
Kansas	Full	until compliance
Kentucky	Partial	Until compliance
Louisiana	Partial	3 months
Maine <sup>4</sup>	Partial/Full (varies)	until compliance
Maryland	Full	until compliance
Massachusetts	Partial	until compliance
Michigan	Partial	1 month
Minnesota <sup>5</sup>	Partial	1 month
Mississippi	Full	2 months
Missouri	Partial	until compliance
Montana	Partial	1 month
Nebraska	Full	1 month
Nevada	Partial	1 month
New Hampshire	Partial	1/2 month
New Jersey	Partial	1 month
New Mexico	Partial	1 month
New York	Partial	until compliance
North Carolina <sup>6</sup>	Partial	3 months
North Dakota	Partial	1 month
Ohio	Full	1 month
(continued...)		

**Table 12:8 (cont.)**

**Sanction Policies for Noncompliance with Work Requirements**

<b>State</b>	<b>First: Partial or Full Sanction</b>	<b>First: Minimum Length of Sanction</b>
Oklahoma	Full	until compliance
Oregon	Partial	until compliance
Pennsylvania	Partial/Full (varies) <sup>7</sup>	1 month
Rhode Island <sup>8</sup>	Partial	until compliance
South Carolina	Full	1 month
South Dakota	Partial	1 month
Tennessee	Full	until compliance
Texas	Partial	1 month
Utah	Partial	until compliance
Vermont	Partial <sup>9</sup>	until compliance
Virginia	Full	1 month
Washington	Partial	until compliance
West Virginia	Partial	3 months
Wisconsin <sup>10</sup>	Partial	until compliance
Wyoming	Full	1 month

[1] If on assistance for 24 months or more.

[2] If the adult quits or refuses to work, the cash benefit is reduced 100 percent.

[3] In August 2001, Arkansas implemented a progressive sanction policy for noncompliance with a work activity requirement. Failure to comply with the work activity requirement without good cause results in a progressive sanction beginning with a 25% reduction in the TEA payment in the first month to possible closure of the TEA case in the sixth month of noncompliance. The first month in which the progressive sanction was effective was October 2001.

[4] If an adult and child grant and the adult fails to comply with Work Requirements, the adult is sanctioned (partial) and the remaining grant is paid to a third party for management on behalf of the child. If an adult only grant and they do not comply with work requirements, the grant is closed (full).

[5] The remaining grant will be paid as a vendor payment.

[6] Electing counties can set own policies.

[7] Partial sanction if on assistance up to 24 months; full sanction when on assistance more than 24 months.

[8] If the adult does not complete an assessment the cash benefit is reduced 100 percent.

[9] Family's grant is reduced by \$75 for each adult sanctioned for a first, second and third cumulative month of sanction. For the fourth cumulative month and any subsequent month the sanction goes up to \$150 per month. This amount is increased to \$225 a month if the sanctioned adult has received 60 or more cumulative months of sanction. Sanctions continue until the sanctioned adult cures the sanction by coming into compliance. In addition, Vermont has a forgiveness provision, which under certain circumstances wipes the past sanctions of a participant's record so they would not be counted in the cumulative count if future sanctions occur. The State also limits the amount of some sanctions during the first 6 months of sanction to protect the family's housing costs as a guard against the risk of homelessness. Even when being sanctioned, the adult must continue to meet with the case manager at least once a month or the grant will be closed. Also, housing costs are paid by vendor payments for sanctioned families.

[10] Sanction could be whole or partial. The cash benefit is based on the number of hours worked in the previous month.

## **Applicant Cash Diversion Programs**

**TANF Provision:** PRWORA contains no specific diversion provisions. Because the law is silent on diversion, it allows States to provide diversion assistance. As such, the majority of States now offer applicant diversion assistance to families as an alternative to ongoing TANF assistance. Generally, this assistance comes in the form of benefit payments designed to provide short-term financial assistance to meet critical needs in order to secure or retain employment.

Typically, States provide several months of benefits in one lump sum. A few States provide a flat amount. By accepting the diversion payment, the family generally agrees not to re-apply for cash assistance for a specified period of time, e.g., receipt of a diversion payment equal to three months of benefits results in family agreeing to not re-apply for benefits for three months. A number of diversion programs provide applicant job search, other services, and/or referral to alternative assistance programs. (Table 12:9 highlights what cash assistance programs the States are providing).

<b>State</b>	<b>Cash Diversion Program</b>	<b>Benefit Equivalent (in months)</b>	<b>Cash Limit</b>	<b>Referral to Job Search or Job Placement</b>	<b>Referral to Alternative Programs for Services or In-Kind Assistance</b>
Alabama	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alaska	YES	2	N/A	NO	NO
Arizona	YES	3	N/A	YES	YES
Arkansas	YES	3	N/A	NO	NO
California	YES	County Option	County Option	County Option	County Option
Colorado	YES	County Option	County Option	County Option	County Option
Connecticut	YES	3	N/A	NO	NO
Delaware	YES	N/A	\$1,500	NO	NO
Dist. of Col.	YES	3	N/A	YES	NO
Florida	YES	N/A	\$1,000	YES	YES
Georgia	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hawaii	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	YES	3	\$879	YES	YES
Illinois	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Indiana	YES <sup>1</sup>	N/A	\$1,000	YES	YES
Iowa	YES	County Option	N/A	NO	YES
Kansas	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kentucky	YES	N/A	\$1,500	YES	YES
Louisiana	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maine	YES	3	N/A	NO	NO
Maryland	YES	County Option up to 12	N/A	YES	NO

(continued...)

Table 12:9 (cont.)

## Applicant Cash Diversion Programs

State	Cash Diversion Program	Benefit Equivalent (in months)	Cash Limit	Referral to Job Search or Job Placement	Referral to Alternative Programs for Services or In-Kind Assistance
Massachusetts	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Michigan	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	YES	Up to 4 months	Up to maximum MFIP Standard	NO	NO
Mississippi	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Missouri	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Montana	YES	3	Up to 3 months benefits per lifetime	NO	NO
Nebraska	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nevada	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Hampshire	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	YES	1	\$750	YES	YES
New Mexico	YES	N/A	\$1,500	NO	YES
New York	NO <sup>2</sup>	N/A	N/A	NO	NO
North Carolina	YES	3	N/A	YES	YES
North Dakota	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	YES	County Determined/ Non-assistance program	County Determined/ Non-assistance program	NO	YES-County Determined/ Non-assistance program
Oklahoma	YES	3	N/A	NO	NO
Oregon	YES	N/A	None	YES	YES
Pennsylvania	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	NO	N/A	N/A	YES	YES
South Carolina	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Dakota	YES	2	N/A	NO	NO
Tennessee	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Texas	YES	N/A	\$1,000	YES	YES
Utah	YES	3	Limited to what the family would be eligible for a 3-month grant period. Amount varies as to family composition.	NO	NO
Vermont	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia	YES	4	\$1,164	NO	NO

(continued...)



**Table 12:9 (cont.)**

**Applicant Cash Diversion Programs**

<b>State</b>	<b>Cash Diversion Program</b>	<b>Benefit Equivalent (in months)</b>	<b>Cash Limit</b>	<b>Referral to Job Search or Job Placement</b>	<b>Referral to Alternative Programs for Services or In-Kind Assistance</b>
Washington	<b>YES</b>	N/A	\$1,500	NO	NO
West Virginia	<b>YES</b>	4	\$1,656	NO	NO
Wisconsin	<b>YES</b>	N/A	\$1,600	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
Wyoming	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

[1] Short term crisis program

[2] Makes diversion payments under its emergency programs, however, it does not have a specific "diversion program."

### **III. Time Limiting Assistance**

**General Provisions:** States generally may not use Federal funds to provide assistance to a family that includes an adult head of household or a spouse of the head of household who has received assistance for 60 months (whether or not consecutive). However, States may extend federally funded assistance beyond 60 months to up to 20 percent of the caseload, without penalty, based on hardship or domestic violence. States also have the option to set lower time limits on the receipt of TANF benefits.

State policies related to time limiting assistance to a family vary greatly. In a few cases, States had received waivers under section 1115 of the Act to implement time limits before PRWORA. These States have the authority to continue their waiver policies for the duration of their waivers. Furthermore, the flexibility available in the use of State funds allows each State to structure its time limit policies in a variety of ways. For example, a State may use segregated or separate State-only funds to provide assistance to families that it wishes to exempt from the time limit or to families that have reached the 60-month Federal time limit, in excess of the 20 percent cap. (See Table 12:10 and Map 12:2).

<b>State Time Limits<sup>1</sup></b>					
<b>State</b>	<b>Lifetime Limit (months)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after lifetime Limit</b>	<b>Intermittent Time Limit (months)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after Intermittent Limit</b>	<b>Date First Families Reach Any Time Limit<sup>4</sup></b>
Alabama	60	NO	NO	N/A <sup>5</sup>	December 1, 2001
Alaska	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
Arizona	No lifetime limit <sup>6</sup>	N/A	24 months in 60 months	YES	November 1, 1997
Arkansas	24	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2000
California	60	YES	NO	N/A	January 1, 2003
Colorado	60	NO <sup>7</sup>	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002 October 2001 <sup>8</sup>
Connecticut	21	NO	NO	N/A	November 1, 1997
Delaware <sup>9</sup>	48	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 1999
	36 (applicants as of 01/01/2000)	NO	NO	N/A	
Dist. of Col.	60	YES	NO	N/A	March 1, 2002
Florida	48	NO	24 months in 60 months or 36 months in 72 months	NO	October 1998 except in waiver areas May, 1996
Georgia	48	NO	NO	N/A	January 1, 2001
Hawaii	60	NO	NO	N/A	December 1, 2001
(continued...)					

**Table 12:10 (cont.)**

**State Time Limits<sup>1</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Lifetime Limit (months)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after lifetime Limit</b>	<b>Intermittent Time Limit (months)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after Intermittent Limit</b>	<b>Date First Families Reach Any Time Limit<sup>4</sup></b>
Idaho	24	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 1999
Illinois	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
Indiana	24	YES	NO	N/A	July 1, 1997
Iowa	60	NO	NO	N/A	January 1, 2002
Kansas	60	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 2001
Kentucky	60	NO	NO	N/A	November 1, 2001
Louisiana	60	NO	24 months in 60 months	NO	January 1, 1999
Maine	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YES (children &amp; adults) (varies)</li> </ul>	NO	N/A	November 1, 2001
Maryland	60	YES	NO	N/A	January 1, 2002
Massachusetts	No lifetime limit <sup>10</sup>	N/A	24 months in 60 months	NO	December 1, 1998
Michigan	No lifetime limit <sup>11</sup>	YES <sup>12</sup>	NO	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
Mississippi	60	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 2001
Missouri	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
Montana	60	NO	NO	N/A	February 1, 2002
Nebraska <sup>13</sup>	60	YES	24 months in 48 months	NO	December 1, 1998
Nevada	60	NO	24 months followed by 12 months of ineligibility	NO	January 1, 2000
New Hampshire	60	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 2001
New Jersey	60	NO	NO	N/A	February 1, 2002
New Mexico	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
New York	60 <sup>14</sup>	YES <sup>15</sup>	NO	N/A	December 1, 2001
North Carolina	60	NO	24 months followed by 36 months of ineligibility	NO	August 1, 1998
North Dakota	60	NO	NO	N/A	July 1, 2002
(continued...)					

**Table 12:10 (cont.)**

**State Time Limits<sup>1</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Lifetime Limit (months)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after lifetime Limit</b>	<b>Intermittent Time Limit (months)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after Intermittent Limit</b>	<b>Date First Families Reach Any Time Limit<sup>4</sup></b>
Ohio <sup>16</sup>	60	NO unless a "child-only" case because the child is residing with a specified relative other than a parent.	36 months State time limit followed by at least 24 months of ineligibility, after which the family may be determined eligible for up to 24 additional months (not to exceed the federal 60-month limit) by the county based on a "good cause" reason.	NO unless a "child-only" case because the child is residing with a specified relative other than a parent.	October 1, 2000
Oklahoma	60	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 2001
Oregon	No lifetime limit <sup>17</sup>	N/A	24 months in 84 months	NO	July 1, 1998
Pennsylvania	60	NO	NO	N/A	March 3, 2002
Rhode Island	60	YES	NO	N/A	May 1, 2002
South Carolina	60	NO	24 months in 120 months	NO	October 1, 1998
South Dakota	60	NO	NO	N/A	December 1, 2001
Tennessee	60	NO	18 months followed by 3 months of ineligibility	NO	April 1, 1998
Texas	60	NO	12, 24, or 36 months followed by 60 months of State ineligibility	YES	June 1, 1997
Utah	36	NO	NO	N/A	January 1, 2000
Vermont	No lifetime limit <sup>18</sup>	YES <sup>19</sup>	NO	N/A	N/A
Virginia	60	NO	24 months followed by 24 months ineligibility	NO	July 1, 1997
(continued...)					

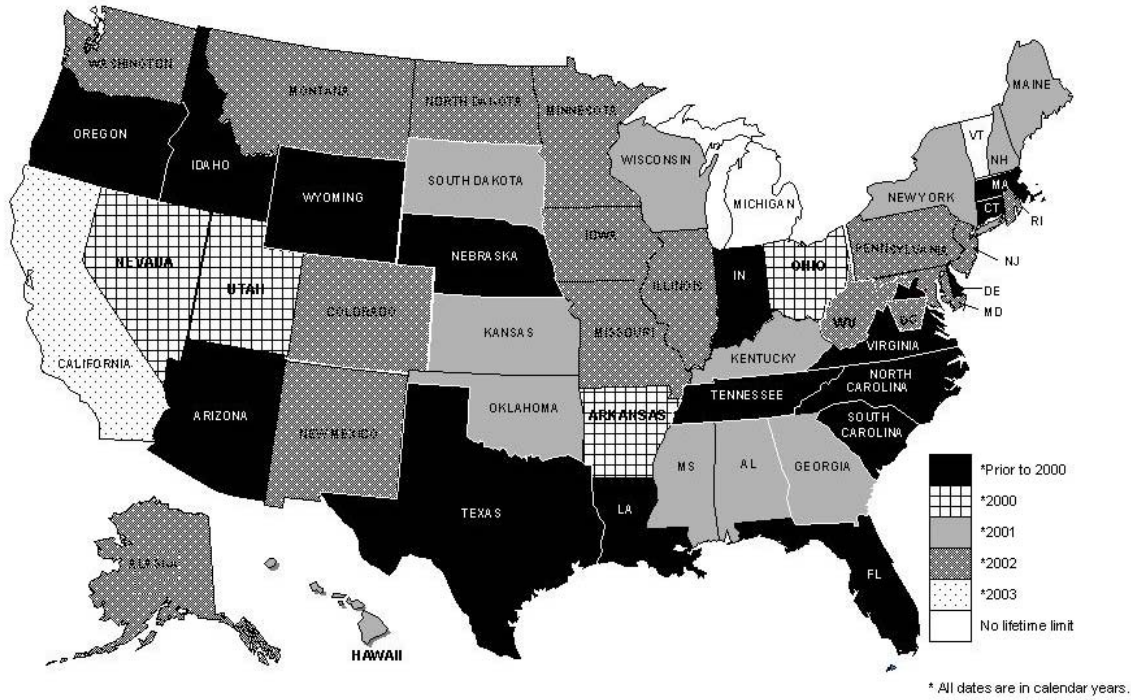
**Table 12:10 (cont.)**

**State Time Limits <sup>1</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Lifetime Limit (months)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after lifetime Limit</b>	<b>Intermittent Time Limit (months)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Benefits Continue to Children after Intermittent Limit</b>	<b>Date First Families Reach Any Time Limit<sup>4</sup></b>
Washington	60	NO	NO	N/A	August 1, 2002
West Virginia	60	NO	NO	N/A	January 1, 2002
Wisconsin	60 <sup>20</sup>	NO	NO	N/A	October 1, 2001
Wyoming	60	NO	NO	N/A	January 1, 1999

- [1] This table addresses time limits that terminate or reduce assistance to a family based receipt of assistance for a period of time. Policies under which receipt of assistance for a certain period of time trigger work requirements are not considered time limits on receipt of assistance here.
- [2] Lifetime time limits permanently reduce or terminate assistance.
- [3] Intermittent time limits terminate or reduce assistance for a period of time after which assistance can again be provided.
- [4] A few States had approved waivers to implement time limits prior to PRWORA. In those cases, the families began accruing months on the time clock based on the waiver rather than the implementation of the TANF program.
- [5] Not applicable
- [6] State is operating under 1115 waiver authority and currently does not have a lifetime time limit policy. However, this provision does not apply to Tribal TANF and Arizona Works Pilot Project--these two groups are limited to 60 months of assistance in a lifetime.
- [7] Unless the child moves out of household.
- [8] Or earlier for recipients from States with shorter limits
- [9] Families with unemployable adults and families with caretakers under 19 years of age are placed in a non-time limited Children's Program.
- [10] Will use State-only funds after 60 months.
- [11] Will use State-only funds for those complying, are not self sufficient after 60 months and who do not qualify for a hardship exemption.
- [12] Benefits continue to the whole family.
- [13] State is operating under 1115 waiver authority. For employable adults, assistance is limited to 24 months in 48 months with a lifetime of 60 months. Families for whom self-sufficiency is determined to be not possible are eligible for the non-time limited program.
- [14] State will provide safety net assistance in the same amount as family's TANF grant.
- [15] Benefits continue to the whole family under State safety net program.
- [16] Unless a "child-only" case because the child is residing with a specified relative other than a parent.
- [17] Because of extensive exemptions from the time limit, the State does not address funding beyond the 60-month Federal limit as cases will either be exempt or terminated as a result of full family sanctions before they reach the Federal limit.
- [18] State will provide state-only funds to individuals after 60 months who are complying, are not self-sufficient and who do not meet any hardship criteria.
- [19] Benefits continue to the whole family.
- [20] Some families may lose benefits prior to reaching the 60-month limit if participating in a particular component.

**Map 12.2 Year First Families Reach Any Time Limits**



**Waiver Inconsistencies Related to Work Participation and/or Time Limit Assistance Requirements of TANF**

Ten States are claiming waiver inconsistencies for waivers that were approved to extend beyond FY 2002. The waivers for six of these States (KS, NE, OH, OR, SC, and VA) expire in FY 2003. Waivers for two States (MT and HI) expire in FY 2004, Massachusetts' waivers expire 9/30/2005, and Tennessee's waivers expire 6/30/2007.

Nine States have lost or will lose their waiver authority by the end of FY 2002 and will not be claiming waiver inconsistencies on FY 2003 or beyond. In addition, two States have expired waiver authority, but continue to claim waiver inconsistencies. Washington and Texas delayed the implementation of time limits because of a waiver inconsistency. Their waiver projects have ended, but the earlier waivers continue to affect families who were on assistance while the waiver was in effect. Table 12:11 summarizes the waiver inconsistency claims by States.

<b>State</b>	<b>Work Participation</b>	<b>Time-Limited Assistance</b>	<b>Authority Expires<sup>1</sup></b>
Hawaii	X	X	9/30/04
Kansas	X		9/30/03
Massachusetts	X		9/30/05
Montana	X		12/31/03
Nebraska	X	X	6/30/03
Ohio	X	X <sup>2</sup>	12/31/02
Oregon	X	X	6/30/03
South Carolina	X	X	9/30/03
Tennessee	X	X	6/30/07
Virginia	X	X	6/30/03
<sup>1</sup> States may choose to discontinue or modify inconsistent policies begun under waivers at any time. After this date, they must operate their TANF program in full compliance with requirements of sections 407 and 408(a)(7) of the Social Security Act.			
<sup>2</sup> Ohio delayed counting months toward the Federal time limit until October 1, 1997.			

## **IV. Other Key Policies**

### *Child Support Enforcement*

**TANF Provision:** Title III of PRWORA establishes stricter child support enforcement policies. States must operate a child support enforcement program meeting general requirements in order to be eligible for TANF. Recipients must assign rights to child support and cooperate with paternity establishment efforts. States have the option to either deny cash assistance or reduce assistance by at least 25 percent to those individuals who fail to cooperate with paternity establishment or with obtaining child support. (See Map 12:3).

**Map 12.3 Maximum Sanction for Noncompliance with Child Support Enforcement Requirements**





**Adoption of Family Violence Option**

**TANF Provision:** Each State has the option to certify in its State plan that it has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to: (1) screen and identify individuals with a history of domestic violence (while maintaining their confidentiality); (2) refer such individuals for counseling and supportive services; and (3) waive program requirements, as appropriate, based on safety and fairness concerns. This provision is commonly referred to as the Family Violence Option. (See Table 12:12)

<b>Table 12:12</b>	
<b>Domestic Violence Provisions</b>	
<b>State</b>	<b>Federal Certification<sup>1</sup> or State Program<sup>2</sup></b>
Alabama	Federal
Alaska	Federal
Arizona	Federal
Arkansas	Federal
California	Federal
Colorado	Federal
Connecticut	State
Delaware	Federal
Dist. of Col.	Federal
Florida	Federal
Georgia	Federal
Hawaii	Federal
Idaho	State
Illinois	Federal
Indiana	Federal
Iowa	Federal
Kansas	Federal
Kentucky	Federal
Louisiana	Federal
Maine	State
Maryland	Federal
Massachusetts	Federal
Michigan	State
Minnesota	Federal
Mississippi	State
Missouri	Federal
Montana	Federal
Nebraska	Federal
Nevada	Federal
New Hampshire	Federal
New Jersey	Federal
(continued...)	

**Table 12:12 (cont.)**

**Domestic Violence Provisions**

<b>State</b>	<b>Federal Certification<sup>1</sup> or State Program<sup>2</sup></b>
New Mexico	Federal
New York	Federal
North Carolina	Federal
North Dakota	Federal
Ohio	State
Oklahoma	State
Oregon	Federal
Pennsylvania	Federal
Rhode Island	Federal
South Carolina	Federal
South Dakota	State
Tennessee	Federal
Texas	Federal
Utah	Federal
Vermont	Federal
Virginia	State
Washington	Federal
West Virginia	Federal
Wisconsin	State
Wyoming	Federal

[1] State submitted a signed certification that it has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to screen and identify individuals with a history of domestic violence, refer such individuals to counseling and supportive services, and waive program requirements based on safety and fairness concerns (commonly called the Family Violence Option, or the Wellstone Murray amendment).

[2] State is addressing the issue of domestic violence under its TANF program, but did not submit the specified certification.

[3] County option.

## **Family Cap**

**TANF Provision:** PRWORA did not include a specific family cap provision. However, States have the flexibility under TANF not to increase cash assistance after the birth of an additional child to a family already receiving TANF benefits. (See Table 12:13 and Map 12.4).

<b>Table 12:13 Family Cap Provisions</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Other Provisions/Services Provided</b>
Arizona	There is no increase in cash assistance for the birth of additional children after the family begins receiving cash assistance. There are exceptions for: Births resulting from cases of sexual assault or incest; Firstborn children of minors who are included in an assistance unit; Children born within 10 months of the date of application; and Children born at least 10 months after a family has not received cash assistance for one full year due to voluntary withdrawal or ineligibility.	Earned income disregard to make up difference in benefits. Information and referral to family planning.
Arkansas	No additional cash benefits with birth of child after approval, no exceptions.	Information and referral to family planning.
California	No increase in the Maximum Aid Payment for any child born to a family that has received TANF for 10 continuous months prior to the birth of a child. Continuous receipt of TANF is defined as receiving aid without a two consecutive month break in aid.	Food Stamp allocation will increase. Child support received will be paid to the assistance unit and will not be counted as income. Information and referral to family planning.
Connecticut	The benefit increase will be one-half of the average increase for an additional child, except births to first time minor parents; or because of rape or incest; or to a child who does not reside with his or her parent if the parent did not receive TANF assistance in either the 9th or 10th calendar month before the birth of the child; or in the case of premature births (as verified by a physician) the mother was not on assistance during the month of conception.	No work exemption for parent of excluded child.
Delaware	No additional cash benefits with birth of child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest.	Information and referral to family planning. Fill-the-gap benefit calculations for cases with earnings/child support.
Florida	For the first such child (including all children in the case of a multiple birth), provide an increase in the cash benefits equal to 50 percent of the maximum allowable increment; and for a second or subsequent child, provide no increase in the cash benefits received by the unit.	The additional child will be included in the Need Standard. Information and referral to family planning services.
(continued...)		

**Table 12:13 (cont.)**

**Family Cap Provisions**

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Other Provisions/Services Provided</b>
Georgia	No additional cash benefits with birth of child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest.	Information and referral to family planning. Fill-the-gap benefit calculations for cases with earnings.
Idaho	No additional cash benefits with birth of child. TANF grant is the same amount for families of all sizes.	Increase in family size will increase the earned income disregard.
Illinois	No additional cash benefits with birth of child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest or to a child who does not reside with his or her parent or to a child that was conceived in a month the family was not receiving TANF and had not received TANF for a period of at least 3 consecutive months.	Earned income disregard to make up difference in benefits. Information and referral to family planning.
Indiana	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest. No additional TANF benefits with birth of child.	Information and referral to family planning. Parent of excluded child may be granted a work exemption for 12 weeks.
Maryland	Child Specific Benefit (CSB). Direct cash assistance is not paid for a child in the assistance unit born to an assistance unit member 10 months or more after the date of application for cash assistance or date of notice of the CSB requirements. The benefit amount is the incremental increase in TCA that would have been paid on behalf of the child, reduced by countable income. The benefit is paid to a third party and used for child specific items.	A child subject to provisions of this regulation is treated as an assistance unit member for all other purposes, including but not limited to Medical Assistance, child care services, and Food Stamps. This regulation does not apply if the birth of a dependant child is the result of rape or incest, the first born child of a minor in the unit, another caretaker relative has obtained legal guardianship of the child, or the child is placed in the home of a caretaker relative by the local department of social services.
Massachusetts	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest or other extraordinary circumstances. Extends coverage to children conceived within 12 months after family leaves the rolls.	Information and referral to family planning. Expanded earnings/child care disregard. Parent of excluded child may be granted a work exemption for 12 weeks.
Mississippi	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child.	Income received on behalf of the child, including child support received will be paid to the assistance unit and will not be counted as income. The additional child will be included in the Need Standard for purposes of determining TANF eligibility.

(continued...)

**Table 12:13 (cont.)**

**Family Cap Provisions**

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Other Provisions/Services Provided</b>
Nebraska	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child if born more than 10 months after the date of application, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest.	Information and referral to family planning.
New Jersey	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child, except births to first time minor parents and cases which; have left the rolls, remained employed at least 90 days, and terminated employment for good cause; or remained off the rolls for at least 12 consecutive rolls for any reason.	Children subject to family cap are eligible for all other services except cash assistance.
North Carolina	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child as a result of a child born to the family 10 or more months after the family begins to receive TANF, except births to first time minor parents; or because of rape or incest; or to a child that was conceived in a month the assistance unit (i.e., the entire family) was not receiving TANF; to a child when parental custody has been legally transferred; to a child who is no longer able to live with his or her parents.	
North Dakota	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child.	Child support collections pass through for benefit of child.
Oklahoma	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child.	If a child is born to a recipient 10 months from date of application for assistance, the amount that would be added to the benefit for the child is paid in the form of vouchers until the child reaches the age of 36 months.
South Carolina	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child.	Benefits provided in the form of vouchers or commodities for a child born subject to the benefit limitation up to the amount of the increase in cash benefits that the family would have received for the child in the absence of the family cap. The vouchers may be used to pay for goods and services, as determined by the State, to support the needs of the child and permit the custodial parent to participate in education, training and employment-related activities.

(continued...)

**Table 12:13 (cont.)****Family Cap Provisions**

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Other Provisions/Services Provided</b>
Tennessee	No additional cash benefit will be issued due to the birth of a child when the birth occurs more than 10 calendar months after the later of the date of application for TANF. A caretaker must provide a physician's statement to overcome the presumption that a child born more than 10 months after application was conceived prior to such date. Does not apply to the first-born child of a minor or children born as the result of rape or incest.	Information and referral to family planning. The additional child will be included in the need standard and the income of the child, including child support, will be applied against the need standard and the fill-the-gap budgeting method in determining the TANF payment amount for the family.
Virginia	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child, except births to first time minor parents or because of rape or incest. The family cap does not apply to children born within 10 months of beginning to receive assistance.	Pass-through all child support received for family affected. Information and referral to family planning. Parent of excluded child may be granted a work exemption for 6 weeks.
Wisconsin	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child. TANF grant is the same amount for families with the same work status regardless of family size.	Information and referral to family planning. Family planning information provided at application and with benefit checks.
Wyoming	No additional cash benefits with birth of a child.	

**Map 12.4 Family Cap**

