

July 24, 2024

The Honorable Jay Inslee Governor of Washington Office of the Governor PO Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504-0002

## Dear Governor Inslee:

On April 15, 2024, Washington submitted a four-year Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) combined state plan for approval to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education and combined plan partner agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services. The state received a joint-agency email on June 27, 2024, informing it that the Departments of Labor and Education had approved their portions of the combined plan.

The email noted that the Department of Health and Human Services would make a separate determination in accordance with section 103(c)(3)(B) of WIOA regarding the program-specific requirements of the combined state plan governing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

We have reviewed the TANF-specific portion of the combined state plan and have determined it to be complete. The combined state plan subsumes the individual TANF state plan; thus, the state should not submit a separate TANF plan. The Secretary of Health and Human Services makes a finding of plan completeness, but does not approve or disapprove a plan. Therefore, you should not construe this determination of completeness as an approval of any particular activity or as a determination that any particular expenditure is an allowable use of TANF/maintenance-of-effort (MOE) funds.

You have asked us to consider this submission to be a TANF plan renewal. Although the combined state plan subsumes the TANF state plan, the underlying TANF plan requirements in section 402 of the Social Security Act continue to apply. Thus, to remain eligible for TANF and continue to receive federal funds under the TANF program, Washington must ensure that its WIOA combined plan submission and amendments meet the time frames established in section 402(a) as well. This requires the state to submit a plan that contains all the necessary elements listed in section 402 of the Social Security Act, including the certifications specified under sections 402(a)(2)-(8).

I am pleased to inform you that, as of July 1, 2024, Washington continues to qualify as an eligible state under the TANF program, in accordance with section 402 of the Social Security

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Act. Accordingly, Washington is entitled to an annual State Family Assistance Grant (SFAG) of \$378,987,702.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please contact Patrick Heiman, TANF Program Specialist, Region 10, at (240) 723-0542 or Patrick.Heiman@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Ann Flagg Director Office of Family Assistance

cc: Brice Montgomery, Director, Community Services Division, DSHS