



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

**WASHINGTON'S TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)
STATE PLAN CERTIFICATIONS**

The State will operate a program to provide Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives; to end dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage; to prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies; and to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

This program is known as the Washington Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program and the Executive Officer of the State for this program is Jay Inslee, Governor.

In administering a program which provides TANF with minor children under title IV-A of the Social Security Act, the state will:

1. Designate the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services as the state agency responsible for administering and supervising the program under part A in all political subdivisions of the state;
2. Assure that local governments and private sector organizations have:
 - a. Been consulted regarding the plan and design of welfare services in the state, so that services are provided in a manner appropriate to local populations; and
 - b. Had at least 45 days to submit comments on the plan and the design of such services (the public comment period ran from January 22, 2024, to beyond April 18, 2024);
3. Operate a Child Support Enforcement program under the state plan approved under part D;
4. Operate a Foster Care and Adoption Assistance program in accordance with part E, and certify that the state will take all necessary actions to ensure that children receiving assistance are eligible for medical assistance;
5. Provide each member of an Indian tribe, who is domiciled in the state and does not receive assistance under a Tribal Family Assistance plan approved under Section 412, with equitable access to assistance, under the state program funded under title IV-A, attributable to funds provided by the federal government;

6. Establish and enforce standards and procedures to ensure against program fraud and abuse, including standards and procedures concerning nepotism, conflicts of interest among individuals responsible for the administration and supervision of the state program, kickbacks and the use of political patronage; and
7. Make available to the public a summary of the state plan.

The state has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to:

1. Ensure that applicants and potential applicants for TANF are notified of assistance made available by the state to victims of sexual harassment and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking;
2. Ensure that case workers and other agency personnel responsible for administering the TANF program are trained in:
 - a. The nature and dynamics of sexual harassment and domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking;
 - b. State standards and procedures relating to the prevention of, and assistance for, individuals who are victims of sexual harassment or survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking; and
 - c. Methods of ascertaining and ensuring the confidentiality of personal information and documentation related to applicants for assistance and their children who have provided notice about their experiences of sexual harassment, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

OPTIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CERTIFICATION

The state has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to:

1. Screen and identify individuals receiving assistance under title IV-A with a history of domestic violence while maintaining the confidentiality of such individuals;
2. Refer such individuals to counseling and supportive services;
3. Waive, pursuant to a determination of good cause, other program requirements such as time limits (for as long as necessary) for individuals receiving assistance, residency requirements and child support cooperation requirements, in cases where compliance with such requirements would make it more difficult for individuals receiving assistance under this part to escape domestic violence or unfairly penalize such individuals who are or have been victimized by such violence, or individuals who are at risk of further domestic violence; and
4. Ensure that, if a state has elected to establish and enforce standards and procedures

regarding the screening for, and identification of, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking pursuant to paragraph 7 of 42 USC 602 Eligible States; State plan:

- a. the state program funded under this part provides information about the options under this part to current and potential beneficiaries; and
- b. case workers and other agency personnel responsible for administering the state program funded under this part are provided with training regarding state standards and procedures pursuant to paragraph (7).

CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE STATE:



Jay Inslee, Governor of Washington

June 28, 2024

Date