



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Chad Poppell
Secretary

DATE: June 12, 2020

TO: Regional Managing Directors
Sherriff Offices Conducting Child Protective Investigations
Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agency CEOs

THROUGH: Patricia Babcock, Deputy Secretary *Patricia Babcock*

FROM: Patricia Medlock, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare *Pat Medlock*
Robert Anderson, Assistant Secretary for Operations *Robert H. Anderson*

SUBJECT: 2020-2021 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines for TANF
Effective July 1, 2020

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updates to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines that take effect July 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND: Section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) requires the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services to update at least annually the poverty guidelines. The FPL helps guide financial eligibility for certain federal programs, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

In child welfare, TANF funds help pay administrative costs of the Florida Abuse Hotline, child protective investigations, and case management staff. This necessitates an eligibility determination for the child and his or her family at investigation and every 12 months thereafter. Eligibility for TANF 200% must be determined every 12 months for children receiving protective services in their own homes or in the home of a relative. TANF also helps fund maintenance adoption subsidies (MAS) for special needs children who are not eligible to receive a Title IV-E funded MAS.

Please be reminded that eligibility for TANF 200% and TANF MAS funds is to be conducted through Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN). FSFN will be updated to reflect the 2020-2021 FPL. Please refer to CFOP 170-15, Federal and State Funding Eligibility.

NEW INFORMATION: The attached Request for TANF Funds/Eligibility Form shows the poverty guidelines for the 2020-2021 state fiscal year.

ACTION REQUIRED: Please share this memorandum and attachment with all appropriate staff in your regions, circuits, sheriff offices that conduct child protective investigations, and Community-Based Care Lead Agencies, and subcontracted providers, as appropriate.

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Mission: Work in Partnership with Local Communities to Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency

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CONTACT INFORMATION: If you have any questions or need clarification regarding this memorandum, please submit your questions to the eligibility redesign mailbox at HQW.FS.Eligibility.Redesign@myffamilies.com.

ATTACHMENT:

Form CF-FSP 5244 – Request for TANF Funds/Eligibility Determination – 2020/2021

cc: Taylor Hatch, Assistant Secretary for Economic Self-Sufficiency
Barney Ray, Director of Revenue Management and Partner Compliance
Regional Family and Community Services Directors
Center for Child Welfare