

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION - TAF Employment Services – 25300 (STARS 27150)

Program Overview: The TAF Employment Services program assists adults receiving TAF cash assistance in becoming self-sufficient through employment and community resources. Generally, states must have 50.0 percent of all TAF adults in federally defined work activities or face a reduction in the TANF Block Grant. The comparable rate for families with both parents is 90.0 percent. States may secure a target rate that is lower than the 50.0 percent rate for all families and the 90.0 percent rate for two-parent families if:

- the TANF caseload declines from the FY 2005 level for reasons other than restrictive eligibility policies
- the level of state spending in the TANF program exceeds the minimum maintenance of effort level established by the Welfare Reform Act of 1996.

Employment services are provided chiefly through contractual agreements with community organizations and private companies. The allowed federal work activities center on activities directly related to employment:

- unsubsidized and subsidized employment
- work experience
- on-the-job training
- job search and job readiness assistance
- community service
- vocational educational training
- job skills training
- education related to employment.

Kansas has adopted a balanced strategy in the TAF Employment Services program by focusing on work, but also offering opportunities for skill-building and recognizing that some recipients need to address barriers to employment before they can succeed in the workforce. Adults receiving cash assistance receive help with problems around child care, alcohol or drug abuse, domestic-violence, and other factors that affect family stability, although they must participate in work activities to remain eligible for cash assistance. The program offers 12 months of transitional services to families leaving cash assistance with employment.

Object Codes 5200: Contractual Services

Summary: The contractual expenditures in this object code represent administrative expenditures associated with the TAF Employment Services program. This funding is allocated to the SRS regions for supplies, staff training and seminars, and community coordination efforts involving TAF clients and community partners. Examples of the use of these funds is the purchase of personal computers placed in a common area of a local SRS office to allow clients to compose their resumes and travel for field staff to attend conferences on workforce development.

Current Year FY 2011: \$313,800 - This funding has remained at this level since FY 2001. These funds afford regional staff flexible administrative funds for activities related to TAF employment Services.

Allocated Budget FY 2012: \$313,800 - The requested funds are constant with respect to the current year.

Object Codes 5500: Grants and Assistance

Summary: The following table details the TAF Employment Services assistance budget.

TAF Employment Services Caseload

Item	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Current Year	FY 2012 Allocated Budget
Average Monthly Persons	12,510	12,789	13,137
Monthly Cost Per Person	\$78.40	\$78.47	\$76.39
Total Assistance	\$11,769,559	\$12,042,333	\$12,042,333
Financing			
TANF Block Grant	\$10,673,007	\$12,042,333	\$12,042,333
TANF Contingency Fund	1,096,552	0	0
Total	\$11,769,559	\$12,042,333	\$12,042,333

Current Year FY 2011: \$12,042,333. This total represents the employment services provided to TAF Cash Assistance adults. The requested amount reflects the approved budget. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, which reauthorized the TANF Act, exerted a significant effect on the TAF Employment Services Program. Work participation requirements became more stringent as the allowed activities were narrowed to employment and related pursuits. In addition, the reauthorized program required full documentation for all hours counted toward work activities, complemented by a verification system. Under the change, each hour of work counted by states must now be documented and verified. This change has significantly elevated work activity planning on the part of regional and central office staff.

NARRATIVE INFORMATION – DA 400
Division of the Budget
State of Kansas

AGENCY NAME: Social and Rehabilitation Services
PROGRAM TITLE: Integrated Service Delivery
SUBPROGRAM TITLE: EES – TAF Employment Services

Allocated Budget FY 2012: \$12,042,333 - The funding request remains at the FY 2011 level.

Object Codes 5700: Non-Expense Items

Summary: Within the FY 2010, August 2009 allotment, \$18,687,361 in TANF Block Grant funds was transferred to the Kansas Department of Revenue to finance state earned income tax credits. This action offset EITC expenditures dollar for dollar.

Current Year FY 2011: \$0 – No non-expense items are budgeted.

Allocated Budget FY 2012: \$0 - No non-expense items are budgeted.