

36-month TANF Time Limit

Effective July 1, 2015, a family group shall not be eligible for TANF cash assistance if the family group contains at least one adult member who has received TANF, including the federal TANF assistance received in any other state, for 36 calendar months beginning on and after October 1, 1996. In some cases, the DCF Secretary may grant a hardship extension allowing receipt of TANF cash assistance until the 48-month limit is reached.

Applications received after July 1, 2015 will be notified of the 36-month limit. New applications with more than 36 months of TANF cash assistance prior to the application date will be denied.

Open TANF cases with 36 or more months of TANF used in July 2015, will be allowed a six-month transitional period. The transition period will allow DCF to notify and assist impacted recipients with preparations to ease their transition off TANF cash assistance.

The only exception to this six-month transitional period is for non-hardship cases that reach 48 months after July 2015. Those cases will close after the 48th month, unless there is a hardship.

All cases that have received more than 48 months of TANF cash assistance will be closed by Jan. 31, 2016.