

Form ACF-202 TANF Caseload Reduction Report

Date of Completion: December 31, 2014

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year To Which Credit Applies:

2015

Overall Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Two-parent Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Part 1 - Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005

1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Work Readiness Screening

2. **Implementation Date:** October 2006 and July 2013

3. **Description of Policy:**

October 2006: A work readiness screen, mainly conducted prior to the approval of cash assistance, was established as a condition of eligibility. Applicants who failed to cooperate were denied assistance, while recipients who failed to complete the screen were assessed a work penalty.

July 2013: The work readiness screening requirement was discontinued to align with revised application requirements. (Refer to *Application Policies*, page 10.)

4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.

5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -17.2

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Increase in Earned Income Disregard
2. **Implementation Date:** May 2008
3. **Description of Policy:** Prior to the policy change, the first \$90 of earned income and 40 percent of the remaining income was disregarded when determining the family's benefit. The new policy increased the variable disregard to 60 percent.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** 12.2

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Hardship Criteria Revision
2. **Implementation Date:** October 2008
3. **Description of Policy:** Hardship eligibility was eliminated for 1) under-employed and unemployed cases cooperating with TANF work requirements, and 2) adults over age 60. This policy was superseded by the 48-month time limit policy in November 2011.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -23.4

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Five-Month Transitional Payment
2. **Implementation Date:** January 2009
3. **Description of Policy:** A five-month \$50 transitional payment was provided to employed families whose earnings would have resulted in ineligibility for cash assistance. The policy permitted a new five-month payment cycle following the loss and resumption of employment.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** 31.7

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Verification of Dependent Care Expenses
2. **Implementation Date:** May 2010
3. **Description of Policy:** The verification of dependent care expenses was no longer required.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** 2.6

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Change in Application Process

2. **Implementation Date:** October 2011 and October 2013

3. **Description of Policy:**

October 2011: Due to the different policies between the TANF cash assistance and family medical programs the application and determination of medical coverage was separated from the cash assistance program. Eligibility was determined only for the programs requested.

October 2013: Revised application forms were created. The new Department for Children and Families application form provided the option of requesting food assistance, cash assistance and child care assistance. Requests for medical assistance had to be made on a separate Kansas Department of Health and Environment application form.

4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.

5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -123.9

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Application Policies
2. **Implementation Date:** November 2011, July 2013, January 2014
3. **Description of Policy:**

November 2011. Applicants were required to complete 20 job contacts per week before their eligibility determination and 20 job contacts per week before meeting with a case manager to develop a self-sufficiency plan.

July 2013. The revised application policy eliminated the pre-eligibility job search requirement. The new policy required clients to register in the state's public workforce system and complete a work skills assessment. Eligibility was conditioned on completing both the registration and assessment. In addition, because of the work assessment feature in the new policy, the October 2006 *Work Readiness Screening* policy was discontinued.

January 2014. Clients who failed to register in the workforce system were required to produce a valid excuse.

4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -156.8

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Tiered Sanctions for Child Support and Work Requirements
2. **Implementation Date:** November 2011
3. **Description of Policy:** Under the previous full-family sanction policy for the failure to cooperate with work or child support requirements, clients receiving a sanction were required to cooperate before their reinstatement to cash assistance. A mandatory disqualification period was not involved. The new policy imposed progressively longer mandatory disqualification periods for recurring instances of non-cooperation, as shown in the next table. Following the disqualification period, eligibility for cash assistance was allowed to resume upon the client's cooperation.

Instance of Non-Cooperation	Disqualification Period
1st	3 months
2nd	6 months
3rd	12 months
4th	10 years

4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -156.8

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** 48-Month Time Limit
2. **Implementation Date:** November 2011
3. **Description of Policy:** The 60-month limit for cash assistance was reduced to 48 months, with a hardship provision for an additional 12 months. Two transitional provisions accompanied the new time limit:
 - Cases with over 60 months of assistance at the time of the policy change were allowed a six-month extension.
 - Cases with 36-59 months of assistance at the time of the policy change received an extension up to 12-months, not to exceed an overall 60 months of assistance.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -61.0

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1. **Name of Eligibility Change:** Work Appointment Policy
2. **Implementation Date:** July 2013
3. **Description of Policy:** Previously, clients who missed a work appointment could be sanctioned only after the case manager documented that the client was aware of an appointment and the consequence of breaking the appointment. Under the policy, the appointment notice was revised and considered fair notice of both the assignment and the consequence of missing an appointment. The revised notice provided clients an opportunity to change the time or date of an appointment prior to the appointment, and provided a 24-hour grace period to submit good cause in the event an appointment was missed. Sanctions imposed for breaking an appointment could be rescinded for good cause and supervisory approval. Clients who missed a work program appointment without a good reason were subject to a full-family sanction.
4. **Description of the Methodology Used to Calculate the Estimated Impact of this Eligibility Change:** The All Family impact was multiplied by the percentage of two-parent cases (6.3 percent) to estimate the Two-Parent caseload change.
5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this caseload change in comparison year** -42.3

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Excess MOE Calculation

The TANF regulations allow a proportional adjustment to the caseload reduction credit when the State maintenance of effort expenditure exceeds the required level. (TANF Regulations, §261.43(2)). The calculation below computes the additional credit under this provision. (The acronym "SSP" denotes a separate state TANF program.)

Caseload Data

FY 2005 TANF Caseload	17,621.7
FY 2005 SSP Caseload	-
Total FY 2005 Caseload	17,621.7

FY 2014 TANF Caseload	7,086.8
FY 2014 SSP Caseload	-
Total FY 2014 Caseload	7,086.8

2-Parent Caseload Data

FY 2005 2-P TANF Caseload	1,282.8
FY 2005 2-P SSP Caseload	-
Total FY 2005 Caseload	1,282.8

FY 2014 2-P TANF Caseload	444.4
FY 2014 2-P SSP Caseload	-
Total FY 2014 Caseload	444.4

Adjusted Caseload Data

Adjusted FY 2014 Overall Caseload	7,082.6
Adjusted FY 2014 2-Parent Caseload	444.1

Expenditure Data

<i>Total Expenditures</i>	
FY 2014 Total Federal Expenditures	68,888,524
FY 2014 Total MOE Expenditures	65,945,199
Total Expenditures (Federal + MOE)	134,833,723

Assistance Expenditures

FY 2014 Federal Expenditures on Assistance	42,155,179
FY 2014 MOE Expenditures on Assistance	7,217,525
Total Expenditures on Assistance (Federal + MOE)	49,372,704
Percentage of Expenditures on Assistance	36.6%

Expenditures Per Case

Average Expenditures per Case	19,026
Average Expenditures per Case on Assistance	6,967

MOE and Excess MOE

Required MOE (80%)	65,866,230
Excess MOE Expenditures	78,969
Excess MOE Expenditures on Assistance	28,916

Assistance Cases Funded by Excess MOE	4.2
2-Parent Assistance Cases Funded by Excess MOE	0.3

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Part 2 - Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit

Impact of All Eligibility-Related Policy Changes

Caseload Reduction Calculation

Assistance for Drug Felons	-	Base Year Caseload		
Limited English Proficiency Hardship Policy	-	FY 2005 TANF Caseload	1,282.8	
Hardship Policy for Returning Cases	-	FY 2005 SSP Caseload	-	
Work and CSE Non-Cooperation Penalty Revision	-	Total FY 2005 Caseload	1,282.8	
Work Readiness Screening	(17.2)			
Child Under One Work Exemption Revision 1	-	Caseload in Prior Fiscal Year		
Increase in Earned Income Disregard	12.2	FY 2014 TANF Caseload	444.4	
Expansion in Earnings Verification Procedure 1	-	FY 2014 SSP Caseload	-	
Education Savings Plans Exempted from Resources	-	Total FY 2014 Caseload	444.4	
Hardship Criteria Revision	(23.4)			
Five-Month \$50 Transitional Payment	31.7	Excess MOE Cases in FY 2014	0.3	
Inclusion of Grandparents as Caretakers Program	-	Adjusted FY 2014 Caseload	444.1	
Change in Treatment of Annuities	-			
Gifts Over \$50 Counted as Income	-	Caseload Decline	838.7	65.4%
Past-Due Child Support Counted as Income	-			
Spousal Support Counted as Income	-	Impact of Policy Changes	(410.6)	
Exemption of Relative Caregivers from CSE Cooperation	-	Decline – Net Impact	428.1	
Exempt \$25 per Week Increase in Unemploy. Comp.	-			
Exempt 2010 Census Employment Income	-	Caseload Reduction Credit		33.4%
Verification of Dependent Care Expenses	2.6			
Expansion in Earnings Verification Procedure 2	-			
Require Work Mandatory Adults to Apply for Medicaid	-			
Verification of School Enrollment and Attendance	-			
Change in Application Process	(123.9)			
Count Income and Resources of Cohabiting Partners	-			
Application Requirements	(156.8)			
Tiered Sanctions - Child Support & Work Requirements	(32.5)			
48-Month Time Limit	(61.0)			
Diversification Program	-			
Lifetime Disqualification for Fraud	-			
Domestic Violence Services Revision	-			
Change in Treatment of VA Compensated Work Therapy	-			
Change in Treatment of Parole Money	-			
Change in Treatment of GI Bill Housing Allowance	-			
Change in Work Components for Persons w/ Disabilities	-			
Change in Treatment of Tribal Royalty Payments	-			
Child Under One Work Exemption Revision 2	-			
Exempt Income from Health Profession Grant	-			
Change in Treatment VA Aid and Attendance	-			
Change in Work Appointment Procedure	(42.3)			
Work Experience Time Limit	-			
Restrictions on Use of EBT Card	-			
Child Support Penalty Revision	-			
Verify School Enrollment Revision 2	-			
Suspicion-Based Drug Testing	-			
Total	(410.6)			