STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)
STATE PLAN

FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS
OCTOBER 1, 2005 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2008
REVISION May 22, 2008

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Department of Social Services

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Governor
State of Connecticut

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)
STATE PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This plan describes Connecticut's programs that furnish financial assistance and services to needy families in a manner to fulfill the purposes of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Connecticut administers a variety of programs through a number of state agencies under the TANF program. Each of the programs is designed to meet at least one of the following purposes of TANF.

TANF Purpose:

1. Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of relatives.
2. End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.
3. Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies.
4. Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

The plan is for the federal fiscal years of 2006, 2007, and 2008.

SECTION A

SECTION A - PART I
OVERVIEW OF CONNECTICUT'S TANF PROGRAMS

Sec. 402 (a)(1)(A)

(i) – This Overview part outlines how the state intends to conduct a program, designed to serve all political subdivisions in the state (not necessarily in a uniform manner), that provides assistance to needy families with (or expecting) children and provides parents with job preparation, work, and support services to enable them to leave the program and become self-sufficient.

Connecticut's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program provides assistance to needy families and pregnant women meeting eligibility criteria in all political subdivisions of the state. Assistance for basic needs is provided to needy families through the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) component of the Jobs First program.

Assistance also is provided to needy families for a rental assistance program and foster care maintenance. TFA for "certain exempt" families is a Separate State Program.

Effective October 1, 2007, the Two-Parent component of the TFA cash assistance program is funded as a Solely State Funded (SSF) program, and is no longer part of the TANF program or claimed as a separate state program. Two-Parent TFA cases are those with two parents as defined at 45 CFR 261.24. Other TFA families with two parents continue to be part of the TANF program or Separate State Program as appropriate.

Although the eligibility criteria (including income and asset limits) vary from program to program, a family must meet the definition of a needy family to qualify for any of these programs. Connecticut defines a needy family as a family with gross income less than 75% of Connecticut's median income level. The family must include a dependent child and a caretaker relative.

The ultimate goal of Connecticut's TANF programs is to provide assistance to needy families to enable them to move out of poverty and into self-sufficiency.

A dependent child must be either less than 18 years of age, 18 years of age and attending secondary school or its equivalent, or under age 24 and attending a post secondary school and considered a dependent student through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process.

A caretaker relative is a relative who cares for and supervises the dependent child. The caretaker may be a parent or other person related by blood, through adoption or marriage to a relative or another adult acting in loco parentis.

A needy parent is a parent of a child who is a member of a needy family. The parent may be the custodial or non-custodial parent.

Plan Revisions

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)
STATE PLAN

SECTION A - PART I

Revisions to Connecticut's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program plan are included in this version dated February, 2008. Connecticut has made revisions as a result of decisions regarding new programs recently implemented, programs that are no longer claimed as part of the TANF program, clarifications, or corrections to the descriptions of the programs that Connecticut continues to include in the plan.

Programs **added** to or **deleted** from the TANF plan activities and claim include:

- Connecticut Workforce Advancement Grants for Education (CT WAGE) program has been added effective October 1, 2007.
- Two-Parent Temporary Family Assistance program has been removed from the TANF Plan as an assistance program. Effective October 1, 2007, cash assistance is provided to two parent households in a solely state funded program. Two Parent families are eligible for non-assistance programs such as Employment Services.
- Certain Exempt TFA households, previously funded as a Separate State Program, are funded as regular TFA through Federal TANF & Commingled funds, Effective 10/1/07.
- Good News Garage Transportation program has been deleted effective July 1, 2007.
- Women in Transition program has been deleted effective July 1, 2007.
- After School Youth Initiative has been added effective July 1, 2006.

Programs previously **added** to or **deleted** from the TANF plan activities and claim:

- Next Steps Supportive Housing Program for Families added effective 4/1/07.
- Safety Net Basic Needs - deleted effective 10/01/06.
- Transitionary Rental Assistance - deleted effective 10/01/06.
- Temporary Rent Subsidy Program - deleted effective 07/01/06. Program ended.
- Hispanic Human Resources Development Program - deleted effective 07/01/06.
- DCF Intensive In Home Services component - deleted effective 10/01/05.
- Department of Higher Education's Connecticut Aid to Public College Student Grant Programs for dependent and independent students - deleted effective 10/01/06.
- Department of Higher Ed. - Connecticut Independent College Student Grant Programs for dependent and independent students - deleted effective 10/01/06.
- Department of Labor's First Sanction Intervention Program - deleted effective 10/01/05. The program no longer operates.
- The Department of Labor's Enhanced Employment Services Program has been deleted from the plan effective 7/1/06. This program is now a component of Jobs First (JFES).
- Workforce Literacy Pilot Project – deleted effective 7/1/06. Program ended.
- Grants to Boys and Girls Clubs – deleted effective 10/1/06.
- Judicial Branch's Juvenile Justice Centers - deleted effective 7/1/06.
- Summer Youth Extended Day program - deleted effective 10/1/06.
- DCF's Supportive Housing for Families Program description was deleted, as it is included in the Child Welfare Prevention and Intervention Services program.
- Violence Reduction Program - deleted effective 10/1/06.

A. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Family Assistance Programs part outlines TANF programs that provide assistance to needy families.

A. 1. Temporary Family Assistance (TFA)

The Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) component of Jobs First is an employment focused, time limited assistance program based on the assumption that welfare should be a temporary program of assistance and it is better to work than to be on welfare. Recipients are encouraged to assume personal responsibility for their economic self-sufficiency. Unless they meet exemption criteria, adults are required to seek and retain employment if it is available. Recipients unable to secure employment without intervention from the department will receive services, including education and training, that will assist them in becoming employed. Applicants must attend the initial employment services assessment interview and help develop an employment plan before TFA benefits are granted.

The TFA program attempts to direct participants to employment sufficient to move them off assistance within twenty-one months. The program contains many features that support this objective. The asset limit is $3,000 so families may set aside money for emergencies. Families are allowed to own a reliable car to seek employment, to travel to and from work, or to transport a handicapped family member. To be excluded, the family's equity in the vehicle must not exceed $9,500 or the vehicle must be used to transport a handicapped family member. Earned income of recipients is totally excluded up to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Once earnings reach the FPL, the family becomes ineligible for assistance. Up to $50 per month of current child support is passed through to the family each month and excluded as income. Child care and transportation benefits are provided in order to enable individuals to prepare for, obtain and retain employment.

If a family member refuses to participate in Employment Services activities the family is penalized through grant reduction. Employment Services and benefits to support required activities are provided through Connecticut's Department of Labor.

If the family has made a good faith effort to comply with the employment activities but still has income below the payment standard at the end of twenty-one months of assistance, a six-month extension of benefits may be given. Extensions may also be given to families who have encountered circumstances beyond their control such as domestic violence. To qualify for an extension the family's income cannot exceed the payment standard corresponding to the size of the family.

A. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. 1. Continued

There is no limit on the number of extensions a family may receive. However, the state imposes a 60-month time limit and time limited families cannot receive more than two extensions to the twenty-one month time limit except when all adults meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The adult is precluded from obtaining or maintaining employment due to domestic violence or another circumstance beyond his or her control, or
- Despite working thirty-five or more hours per week, earning at least the minimum wage, the adult earns less than the family's TFA payment standard, or
- The adult is employed and working less than thirty-five hours per week due to (1) a documented medical impairment that limits his/her hours of work, or (2) the need to care for a disabled member of the household; or
- The adult has two or more substantiated barriers to employment such as the lack of available child care, substance abuse or addiction, severe mental or physical health problems, one or more severe learning disabilities, domestic violence, or a child who has a serious physical or behavioral health problem.

If each adult in the family meets at least one of the following exemption criteria, the family is not subject to the state time limits. These exemptions do not apply to the federal time limit. A person is exempt if he or she is incapacitated; age 60 or older; responsible for the care of an incapacitated family member; a non-parent caretaker relative who does not receive assistance; caring for a child under the age of one who is not subject to the family cap; pregnant if a physician has certified that she is unable to work; or unemployable. A six week exemption is also given when a pregnancy ends. This exemption may be extended if a medical professional certifies that the person is unable to work. Minor parents attending and satisfactorily completing high school or high school equivalency programs and their children are exempt from the time limit. However, unmarried minor parents who are not attending and who have not completed high school or its equivalent are not eligible for benefits.

In addition to a family that includes a member who has been battered or subject to extreme cruelty, a family that is exempt from the twenty-one month time limit is exempt from the state's 60-month time limit. Also, these families are considered hardship cases for the sixty month limit of TANF funded benefits.

A. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. 1. Continued

Other features of the TFA program include the following: Additional assistance for a child born to a family receiving assistance is one half of what it would normally be. Minor parents are required to live with their parents or other adults.

Any relative may receive assistance for a child. In addition, legal guardians and others acting in loco parentis may receive such assistance. Pregnant women are eligible for assistance throughout the entire pregnancy. Children are eligible for assistance until they reach age 19 as long as they are still attending high school or its equivalent.

All adult members and minor parents who are caretaker relatives are required to participate in the digital imaging process. At the time of application, an electronic image of the person's index fingers is taken and matched with a computer database of all other recipients to determine if the person is receiving assistance under another name.

The TFA benefit levels vary throughout the state based on the average cost of rent in each area. There are three regions in the state each with a different benefit level. The benefit levels and the towns covered by each level are described in Addendum A.

Effective October 1, 2007, benefits to Certain Exempt Households, previously funded as a Separate State Program, are funded as regular TFA through Federal TANF and Commingled funds.

Effective October 1, 2007, in Connecticut cash assistance to two-parent families, as defined at 45 CFR 261.24, is funded through a Solely State Funded (SSF) program. Two Parent families are eligible for non -assistance benefits such as Jobs First Employment Services.

A. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. 2. Child Care Assistance for Unemployed Persons

Connecticut provides child care assistance to TFA family members preparing for employment through Jobs First Employment Services activities. Child care assistance is also provided to teen parents who need child care while completing high school.

Child care assistance payments are based on several factors including: the local market rate, the child care setting, the number of hours care is needed, the age of the child and the special needs of the child. Unemployed families are not required to pay a family fee.

A. 3. Emergency Assistance Foster Care Maintenance Months 5-12

Connecticut provides foster care maintenance to children who are in the custody of the Department of Children and Families (DCF). TANF covers the portion of the maintenance services that were authorized under the prior Emergency Assistance (EAF) program for clients who would have qualified for Emergency Assistance under that prior program. Benefits are funded by TANF for up to twelve months of care. Benefits for less than five months are non-assistance benefits. (See Protective Services for Children under the Services and Non-Assistance Programs section.) For children who remain in foster care for more than four months, months five through twelve are considered assistance.

A. 4. Rental Assistance Program (RAP)

Housing assistance is available to TFA recipients through the Rental Assistance Program (RAP). This certificate program provides rental subsidies to low-income families. RAP certificates are portable and may be used in any city or town within Connecticut. The income limit for RAP is 50% of the state's median income level. Federal TANF funds are used to cover the cost of RAP subsidies provided to recipients of TFA.

B. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS – MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

This Family Assistance Programs – Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Programs part outlines programs that provide assistance to needy families that utilize state maintenance of effort (MOE) funds.

B. 1. Energy Assistance

Connecticut provides energy assistance to help to pay for heating costs for families with income below 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds to provide energy assistance to families who qualify for both TFA and the Energy Assistance program.

Households that are required to pay for heating costs separately from rent may receive basic benefits, crisis benefits and safety net benefits. Households with heat included in their rental payment may receive a renter's benefit. Families with a member who is elderly, disabled, or under the age of six are considered vulnerable households and qualify for higher basic benefits than other households. There is a limit on liquid assets of $10,000 for homeowners and $7,000 for non-homeowners.

The chart below indicates the basic benefit levels available to families:

POVERTY LEVEL GUIDELINES	VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS	NON-VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS
Up to 100%	$675	$635
101% - 125%	$580	$535
126% - 150%	$485	$435

The benefit levels for renters are as follows:

POVERTY LEVEL GUIDELINES	RENTER BENEFIT
Up to 100%	$270
101% - 125%	$255
126% - 150%	$240

Crisis benefits are provided to households that are unable to secure primary heat, causing a life-threatening situation. Up to $400 is provided to purchase a deliverable fuel through crisis benefits.

Safety Net Assistance is provided to households that have exhausted crisis assistance benefits and are in a life-threatening situation. Up to $400 per occurrence is provided to assist the household in obtaining shelter with adequate heat or, as a last resort, to purchase an emergency fuel delivery.

B. FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS – MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

B. 2. Aliens

Connecticut provides TFA to legal aliens who reside in the state. Eligibility criteria and benefit levels for aliens are the same as they are for citizens.

Segregated state MOE funds are used to provide cash assistance to qualified aliens who are not eligible for federal TANF benefits solely due to their alien status.

B. 3. Non-hardship Families who Received more than 60 months of TFA Benefits

Connecticut provides TFA benefits to families who have exhausted the federal 60 month limit on benefits, but have not exhausted the state's 60 month limit and who do not meet the state's hardship criteria. The exemption criteria for the state time limit is the same as the hardship criteria for the federal limit. When a family loses an exemption they also lose the hardship designation. The state will continue to provide benefits to these families until they reach the state's 60 month time limit. Eligibility criteria and benefit levels for these families are the same as they are for families who have not yet received 60 months of federal TANF benefits.

Segregated state MOE funds are used to provide TFA benefits to these families.

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

This Services and Non-Assistance MOE Programs part describes how Connecticut provides services and non-assistance benefits to needy families through TANF programs through Maintenance of Effort programs. The programs described in this section utilize either segregated state funds or separate state programs.

C. 1. Child Care Assistance Programs (Non-TFA and former TFA families)

Connecticut provides child care assistance to working families transitioning off TFA and non-TFA working families.

Initial eligibility for child care assistance is based on countable family income and the need for child care. At application, a family may be eligible if their countable income is below fifty percent of the state median income (SMI) related to family size. Child support received or paid by the family is not considered countable income. Once determined eligible, a family may receive child care assistance as long as their need for care continues and their countable income remains under the income limit. There is no time limit on a family's eligibility for child care assistance.

Child care payment rates are based on several factors including: the local market rate, the child care setting, the number of hours care is needed, the age of the child and the special needs of the child. All working families are required to pay a portion of the approved child care assistance payment. This Family Fee, paid by the family directly to the child care provider, is calculated based on countable family income in accordance with the following scale.

COUNTABLE FAMILY INCOME	FAMILY FEE
Less than 20% of SMI	2%
20% to 30% of SMI	4%
30% to 40% of SMI	6%
40% to 50% of SMI	8%
50% or more of SMI	10%

These programs serve to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds.

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

C. 2. Child Care Specialist Apprenticeship Program

This initiative, which is administered by the Department of Labor, assists TANF-eligible individuals to participate in the Connecticut Child Care Specialist Apprenticeship program. The apprenticeship program is comprised of two major components: job training and related classroom instruction. Employers that wish to participate in the initiative must adhere to the regulations and statutes that govern the state apprenticeship program which includes wage progression, ensuring the apprentice is learning the trade classification for which he/she is registered, attendance of related instruction, ratio, safety, record keeping and EEO guidelines.

At the completion of the 4000 hours of on the job training and 180 hours of related classroom instruction the Child Care Development Specialist will receive two nationally recognized certificates, the Childcare Development Associate (CDA) as well as their Journeyperson certificate.

This program helps end the dependence of "needy parents" on government benefits by promoting job preparation and work. This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds.

C. 3. Faith Based Initiatives

Connecticut contracts with the Capitol Region Conference of Churches (CRCC) to provide counseling, information and referral to community based programs and services for women, children and non-custodial fathers; counseling directed at beginning or increasing child support payments; counseling and support services that discourage unwed parenthood; and referral and support for job seeking and job retention. Counseling is also focused on the psycho-socio-economic needs of children, including the need for support and nurturance from both parents.

These services meet purpose four of TANF, to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds.

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

C. 4. Jobs Funnel

The Office of Workforce Competitiveness funds the Hartford Construction Jobs Initiative (HCJI), part of the Jobs Funnel program, and the New Haven and Waterbury Jobs Funnel projects. The projects represent joint, public-private efforts to create career opportunities in the construction trades for Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury city residents. Services through the Jobs Funnel projects include outreach, recruitment, assessment, case management, pre-employment preparation (consisting of math, remediation, life skills workshops, customized training, and/or pre-apprenticeship training), job placement, and retention support services for people who want to pursue construction related careers. The program offers an initial training followed by assistance in finding employment in apprenticeships and other jobs in the Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury areas.

Services for program participants who are members of families with dependent children are U.S. citizens, and have income at or below 75 percent of the State Median Income are funded by the TANF program.

This program helps end the dependence of needy parents by promoting work, job preparation, and marriage. Integral to the program are the outreach, assessment, and support services provided by community-based organizations. By providing these services, the goal of the program is to help participants become more job-ready so as to prevent or end their dependence on public assistance.

This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds.

C. 5. Medical Assistance for Aliens

Connecticut provides medical assistance to legal aliens who reside in the state. The eligibility criteria for aliens are the same as they are for citizens.

Segregated state MOE funds are used to provide medical benefits to qualified aliens and aliens paroled into the United States for less than one year under section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act who do not qualify for federal medical benefits solely due to their alien status. Medical assistance is provided to families with income under 300% of the federal poverty level.

This program serves to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

C. 6. School Readiness

The initiative is designed to ensure that children from low-income families have access to high-quality early learning experiences by combining the strengths and resources of the public and private child care and school systems. Funds are made available to School Readiness Councils in communities with large numbers of low-income children. The Councils assess community needs, identify gaps, and allocate funds. Each Council is allocated funds to increase the number of 3- and 4-year old children served in early care and education programs and to improve the quality of those services. The Councils are required to ensure that full-day early childhood care and education services are available year-round. Additionally, funds are made available on a statewide basis to train new early childhood teachers.

The policy goal of the program is that 60% of the families must have earnings less than 75% of the state median income. Also, 60% of the families must be working full-time.

This is a separate state program. These services prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births.

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

C. 7. Supportive Housing for Families

The Department of Social Services (DSS) provides supportive services for families participating in of the State of Connecticut's Next Step Supportive Housing Initiative. This initiative is designed to create permanent, affordable service-supported housing opportunities for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, particularly people experiencing repeated or persistent homelessness. The purpose of the initiative is to enable homeless families and individuals to stabilize their lives and to regain a stake in the community.

DSS provides project-based rental assistance through the State Rental Assistance Program (claimed as TANF only if the recipient is a recipient of Temporary Family Assistance. See Section A. 4. on page 8 of this document and Section 8 project-based vouchers. It provides TANF Separate State Program funding for the delivery of supportive services to families with special needs through annual contracts with projects that serve among the target populations, families with children aged 14 or younger that:

- are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness and;
- have income less than 75% of state median income;
- are headed by adults with multiple barriers to employment and housing stability, such as cognitive limitations, history of trauma, mental illness and/or chemical dependency;
- are presently involved in the Department of Children and Families (DCF) system, either in protective services or voluntary services; and/or
- are reuniting after DCF out-of-home placement.

Supportive services funded under the Next Step program are services that enhance and support the family's ability to retain permanent housing, access and retain meaningful employment and increase their skills and income, access public and early childhood education, sustain good health, make connections to the larger community, and achieve greater self-reliance.

This program is a Separate State Program that provides assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of relatives (TANF Purpose One) and helps end the dependence of "needy parents" on government benefits by promoting job preparation work and marriage (TANF Purpose Two).

C. 8. CT WAGE Program

C. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) PROGRAMS

Charter Oak State College's Connecticut Workforce Advancement Grants for Education (CT WAGE) program is designed to addresses the needs of low income parents who could, with post secondary education in career and occupational programs, improve the quality of their lives. The program assists low-income, working parents in completing a college degree. The program is modeled after the Women in Transition program. All individuals provided with services will meet the criteria of "needy parents" as defined in Connecticut's State Plan for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program.

The CT WAGE participants are provided with laptop computers, internet access, text books or reimbursement for books for coursework, funding for courses not covered by financial aid, academic, career and personal counseling, and other related expenses that may include child care or transportation. The technology tools allow the student to take online courses and to communicate with faculty, student support staff and other students. Taking online courses alleviates the need for childcare and transportation costs and allows the family to spend more quality time together.

CT WAGE students must meet academic and financial eligibility criteria. The purpose of the program is to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage. This is a separate state program that utilizes state maintenance of effort funds. Effective October 1, 2007.

C. 9. After School Youth Initiative

The After School Youth Initiative is designed to provide opportunities for youth for recreational, academic enrichment, life skills, leadership development, mentoring skills, and arts and culture activities. The program serves children between the ages of 6 and 18 years in age. It offers opportunities for youth to engage in public service, stable and safe housing, access to quality mental and health providers, improve teamwork, problem solving, and communication skills. The program will have Class Advisors to serve as liaisons between students, parents, the school, and the program. The Class Advisors and other program staff will work in conjunction with school staff to monitor and assist students with their schoolwork. This program helps to prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies. Effective July 1, 2006.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

This Services and Non-Assistance Programs part describes how Connecticut provides services and non-assistance benefits to needy families through TANF programs. The programs described in this section utilize federal funds or commingled state and federal funds.

D. 1. Adult Education

Operated through the State Department of Education (SDE), the Adult Education program provides funds to school districts to provide services such as English as a Second Language (ESL), basic skills introduction, and high school completion.

These services are available to needy families who have gross family income at or below seventy-five percent of the State's Median Income.

This program helps to end the dependence of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.

D. 2. Alternative to Detention Program (ADP)

The General Assembly appropriates funds annually to the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch to fund the Alternative to Detention Program (ADP). ADPs target juveniles who have been ordered into a Juvenile Detention Center to determine if they meet the criteria for referral to an alternative program. Juveniles chosen for the ADP program are supervised in the form of community-based day programming and short-term residential programs. Both the residential (any residential costs incurred by this program are excluded from the TANF claim) and the non-residential components of the program provide a wide array of services, seven days each week. Programming includes: counseling, substance abuse education and treatment, volunteer service, recreational/physical fitness activities, life skills development, family and peer relationships, anger management, values clarification, problem solving, sexuality, parenting, and accepting responsibility for behaviors. There are no income guidelines for this program. This program utilizes federal TANF funds.

This program supports the third purpose of the TANF program, because it provides services that address the at-risk behaviors and self-esteem issues of juveniles that may lead to out-of-wedlock pregnancy.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 3. Alternative Incarceration Centers (AIC)

The General Assembly has appropriated funds to the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Judicial Branch to fund the Alternative Incarceration Centers (AIC) program within Connecticut. The AIC program is a community-based program that provides supervision and services to individuals who are 16 or above. This program provides an alternative for specific individuals who without this program would be incarcerated. The Alternative Incarceration Centers involve partnerships with local community providers who offer services to the individuals participating in the program. Program services include: Intake, assessment for risk and need, case management, substance abuse assessment, group interventions (employment, cognitive skills, substance abuse), community service restitution; pre-trial urinalysis testing; referral to community resources, including education and job development. These services are considered "non assistance," as they do not provide for basic needs like food, shelter, and clothing.

This program supports purpose 3 & purpose 4 of the TANF program, to prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Effective 10/1/06 federal TANF funds are used in this program to support activities for United States citizens only. Non-TANF funds are used for the activities of non-citizens.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 4. Child Care Assistance Programs (TFA Recipients)

Connecticut provides child care assistance to families receiving TFA to enable parents to work.

Initial eligibility for child care assistance is based on countable family income and the need for child care. At application, a family may be eligible if their countable income is below fifty percent of the state median income (SMI) related to family size. TFA benefits and child support received or paid by the family are not considered countable income. Once determined eligible, a family may receive child care assistance as long as their need for care continues and their countable income remains under the income limit. There is no time limit on a family's eligibility for child care assistance.

Child care payment rates are based on several factors including: the local market rate, the child care setting, the number of hours care is needed, the age of the child and the special needs of the child. All working families are required to pay a portion of the approved child care assistance payment. This Family Fee, paid by the family directly to the child care provider, is calculated based on countable family income in accordance with the following scale.

COUNTABLE FAMILY INCOME	FAMILY FEE
Less than 20% of SMI	2%
20% to 30% of SMI	4%
30% to 40% of SMI	6%
40% to 50% of SMI	8%
50% or more of SMI	10%

These programs serve to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 5. Child Welfare Prevention and Intervention Services

These services are provided when conditions exist requiring the intervention of the Department of Children and Families (DCF). These services include:

- **Substance Abuse Screening, Support for Recovering Families and Substance Abuse Services programs** – substance abuse counseling and treatment services, as well as screening of a non-medical nature.
- **Case Management Services** – services provided by DCF staff under the state's Emergency Assistance program in effect on September 30, 1995, as well as a variety of services to families to address issues that may cause a child to be abused or neglected in an effort to allow a child to remain in his or her home.
- **Intensive Family Preservation Services** - 24-hour family preservation counseling to families in their homes; family reunification services for up to 16 weeks for children who are able to be reunited with their parents and foster family preservation services designed to help foster parents properly care for their foster children (EA).
- **Treatment/Prevention of Child Abuse program** - community-based prevention and treatment of child abuse.
- **Local Systems of Care** - community-based case management for children and their families who are at-risk of being removed from their homes.
- **Community Emergency Services** – outreach, referral, and crisis intervention to families who are at-risk or have experienced abuse and neglect.
- **Family Violence Services** - support for families in which there is a child or adult victim of family violence.
- **Early Childhood Development** - child-care of a therapeutic nature to enable children who have demonstrated emotional, behavioral, or neurological problems to remain in their homes.
- **Investigations** - investigations of reports of child abuse and neglect, to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of children from their homes in cases where a removal has not occurred but such a removal is a reasonable possibility in the absence of preventive services.
- **DCF Individualized Family Support** – Funds a variety of services to keep children in the home, such as therapeutic child care, intensive family preservation, and family violence services.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 5. Continued

- **Supportive Housing for Families** – case management and counseling supportive services for clients in subsidized housing programs.
- **DCF Family Support Teams** - support to reunifying families during the post transition phase of reunification.

Also included are services provided with funds from the Children's Trust Fund such as parenting programs for first-time parents, Parents Anonymous groups, and other developmental and support services.

These services are offered on behalf of children under the age of 19 who are members of families with a gross income of seventy-five percent or less than the State Median Income (SMI).

These services enable needy families to care for their children in their own homes or in the homes of relatives or were authorized through the Emergency Assistance program described in Connecticut's IV-A State Plan in effect on September 30, 1995**.**

D. 6. Community Detention Centers for Girls (CDCs)

The General Assembly appropriates funds annually to the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch to fund the Community Detention Centers for Girls program (CDCs). The services are provided to female juvenile detainees who are remanded to a physically secure facility pending disposition or placement. The services provided, include: education, medical treatment as necessary, life skills development, substance abuse counseling, and recreational activities. The goal of the services provided is to foster positive behaviors that will help the clients to make better life choices in the future. The costs being claimed under TANF include the support services that address a client's risky behaviors, while the residential costs, medical costs and educational costs are excluded from the claim. There are no income guidelines for this program. This program utilizes federal TANF funds.

This program supports the third purpose of the TANF program, because it provides services that address the risky behaviors of the females who have been remanded, that can lead to out-of-wedlock pregnancy.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 7. Court Based Juvenile Assessment Services -

This program provides assessment services for youth referred by the courts to the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch. The assessment is performed to determine what the specific needs of the individual are in order to address the causes of his or her risky behaviors. Such needs may include, for example, substance abuse services or family counseling. Professionals in the areas of psychology, psychiatry, and substance abuse perform the assessments on the youth referred.

These services are considered "non assistance," as they do not provide for basic needs like food, shelter, and clothing. In addition, the services are provided to "needy families," which is described as having an income level below 75% of the state median income for family size.

This program supports purpose one of the TANF program, which is to provide assistance to "needy families" so that children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of caretaker relatives.

Effective 10/1/06 federal TANF funds are used in this program to support activities for United States citizens only. Non-TANF funds are used for the activities of non-citizens.

D. 8. Department of Children and Families Extended Day Treatment Program

The Extended Day Treatment program, operated by the Department of Children and Families, provides case management, counseling, and support services in the community before and after school in order to promote positive behaviors. Services are provided to children who have been returned to their homes or are at home but at risk of placement due to mental health or emotional disturbance. Services are provided daily before and after school, with extended daily service on days or weeks in which school is not in session.

This program qualifies for TANF under Purpose 3 ("to reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies"). The ACF "Funding Guide" states that programs that are operated during non-school hours support the third purpose of TANF, because these programs offer supervision during the day when youth are likely to engage in at-risk behaviors (page 11 of the "Funding Guide"). Since the Extended Day Treatment program provides services before or after school, and at other times when school is not in session, it would meet this criteria. There are no income guidelines for this program, since it qualifies for the third purpose of TANF.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 9. Department of Correction Addiction Treatment Services

The Department of Correction (DOC) provides addiction services to clients who have varying levels of needs, from basic addiction education to intensive counseling. TANF claiming is limited to costs of non-medical services provided to clients who are parents. By providing addiction treatment to parents, the program helps them become clean and sober, which ultimately will enable them to become contributing members of the family. This program encourages the formation and maintenance of two parent families.

D. 10. Department of Correction Education and Training Services

The Department of Correction (DOC) provides education and training services that prepare clients to develop job skills and ultimately secure employment. TANF claiming is limited to costs related to services provided to clients who are parents. By providing education and training services to parents, the program helps them obtain the skills and ultimately jobs that will enable them to be contributing members of their families.

This program encourages the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 11. Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) - Problem Gambling Services Program

The Connecticut Lottery Corporation created the "Connecticut Partnership for Responsible Gambling" (the Partnership). The Partnership is designed to educate consumers on problem gambling, underage gambling, and to promote responsible play. The Partnership also serves as a leading resource for responsible gambling, warning signs of problem gambling and available treatment services. The Connecticut Lottery Corporation supports this effort through a $1.2 million annual contribution to the DMHAS Problem Gambling Services Program.

Through the Problem Gambling Services program, DMHAS provides counseling, assessment, financial management counseling, and peer counseling. They also provide gambling prevention services and perform advocacy work. The program operates in 15 sites throughout the State, which are either State-operated or operated by private non-for-profit organizations.

This program encourages the formation and maintenance of two-parent families. (TANF Purpose 4). The program addresses problem gambling, which can be a source of family separation and can be a contributing cause of lack of parental support. The ACF "Guide on Funding Services for Children and Families through the TANF Program" notes "some activities that are reasonably calculated to accomplish (TANF Purpose 4) might include…initiatives to promote responsible fatherhood and increase the capacity of fathers to provide emotional and financial support for their children." (Page 11 of the Guide). The same premise would hold for mothers, as well as fathers. A recent study of the Problem Gambling Services program showed that many of the clients are married and that pathological gambling does lead to negative social and financial outcomes, such as divorce and unemployment.

There are no income guidelines for this program.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 12. Department of Developmental Services Individual and Family Grant Program

The Department of Developmental Services administers a program called the Individual and Family Grant program. This program makes grants to families that have children who are diagnosed with mental retardation. The purpose of the grants is to enable the families to purchase respite services. Families may also use the grant to purchase special equipment, or to pay for activities or emergencies. The respite services include in-home respite care and temporary out-of-home respite care. "Respite" provides time for the family to re-energize, deal with emergency situations, or engage in activities that may be neglected as a result of the ongoing demands of caring for a family member who has mental retardation. The goal of the program is to support persons with mental retardation to live with their families in their communities. Grants ranging from $600 per year to $1,000 per year, depending on need, are available to "needy families" with income below 75% of the state's median income level for the family's size. In extraordinary circumstances, the maximum Individual and Family Grant payment per year is $5,000. These grants do not represent 'basic income support' and therefore do not meet the criteria for "assistance."

These services support TANF Purpose 1, - to provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

D. 13. Department of Developmental Services (DDS) - State Respite Centers Program

The Department of Developmental Services administers respite care through DDS staff and through contracts with private providers. These services provide temporary out-of-home relief to families with children who are diagnosed with mental retardation. The purpose of providing temporary (e.g., one to seven days) out-of-home respite is to enable the family to re-energize, deal with emergency situations, or engage in activities that may be neglected as a result of the ongoing demands of caring for a family member who has mental retardation. The goal of the respite program is to support persons with mental retardation to live with their families in their communities. The program is available to family's with income below 75% of the state's median income level for the family's size.

These services support TANF Purpose 1, to provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 14. Diversion

Connecticut's diversion program became effective October 1, 1998. This program provides qualifying applicants with up to three times the amount the family would receive each month under the Jobs First program. Applicants are screened to determine if a lump sum payment can address the issue that compelled them to apply for assistance. Applicants must be determined to be otherwise eligible for Jobs First assistance, meet the program profile characteristics and have short-term needs that, if provided, will prevent the need for ongoing cash assistance.

To meet the program profile characteristics a person must be employed or have a job offer that will begin within three months, have a solid work history, or have marketable job skills that will lead to employment.

After eligibility is determined, applicants have three working days to refuse diversion and accept full assistance. Applicants subject to the time limit who accept diversion payments are treated as if they have received three months of Jobs First cash assistance. For families subject to the time limit, three months is deducted from their twenty-one month time limit. Medicaid eligibility under section 1931 is also explored at the time of application. If a family member is employed when section 1931 eligibility ends, transitional Medicaid is given for twelve additional months. The family also may qualify for childcare benefits.

This program serves to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 15. Employment Services

The state provides employment services to all recipients of Temporary Family Assistance (TFA). Employment services are also provided to those who are participating in an employment service activity authorized by their employment plan at the time of becoming ineligible for TFA until they complete that activity. The state refers to these employment services as Jobs First Employment Services. The Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) administers Jobs First Employment Services (JFES) through *CT Works*. *CT Works* is a partnership of the CT Department of Labor, the Regional Workforce Development Boards (RWDB's), and other state and local agencies, including the Department of Social Services.

Jobs First Employment Services are provided to adults or minor parents in families applying for or receiving Temporary Family Assistance funded by TANF, and to Two-Parent families funded as a solely state funded program. All TFA applicants and recipients, including Two-Parent families, are eligible for employment services even if they are not required to participate by the regulations governing the TFA program. If a TANF funded TFA recipient is in an employment service activity authorized by the employment plan at the time of becoming ineligible for TFA, employment services continue until completion of that activity, provided the individual remains part of a needy family with income under 75% of the state's median income level. Similarly, services to participants in two-parent families who become ineligible for TFA while in an authorized activity will continue until the completion of that activity.

The goals of the Jobs First Employment Services program are as follows:

1. Enable TFA participants, through employment, to become independent from cash assistance by the end of the 21-month time limit established by state law;
2. Enable TFA participants who become independent from cash assistance to remain employed and independent of TFA; and
3. Ensure that federally established participation rates are met through employment of TFA participants and engagement in other countable TANF work activities deemed appropriate based on assessments of clients' needs.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 15. Continued

Operating Principles

1. The primary focus of the Jobs First Employment Services Program is to assist participants to become independent of assistance through employment.
2. Every participant is assigned to activities that will enable him/her to become and remain independent of TFA. Whenever possible, activities are combined in a way that will meet the federally established participation rates. Each service delivery area manages its caseload in such a way as to meet the state target levels for the participation rates.
3. An individualized employment plan based on assessment of skills, abilities, work experience, education level, aptitudes, interests and program goals is developed for every participant. The individual employment plans for parents in a two-parent family are coordinated with each other in order to meet program goals. The combination of both parents' plans constitutes a plan for the family.
4. If, based on the assessment, it is determined that the family is capable within the first 21 months or anytime during an extension period of obtaining employment at earnings equal to the Federal Poverty Level for their family size, the participant (participants) are required to find and/or maintain employment at the Federal Poverty Level as soon as possible.
6. If it is determined that the family cannot obtain earnings at the Federal Poverty Level (in the case of a two-parent family, both parents wages or potential wages are combined) without further training and/or education, the participant/s are assigned work, education and/or training activities that will maximize the family's income level within the first 21 months of assistance. For participants in extensions, work, education and/or training activities that will maximize the family income level as soon as possible are assigned. Whenever possible, employment is combined with education and training in such a way that the combination is countable toward the federally established participation rate.
7. As long as consistent with the program goals, employment plan activities are based on the participant's interests, ability, availability of resources and labor market demands.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 15. Continued

8. If it is evident that the family will not be able to become or remain independent of TFA through current employment or future employment that is secured (such as seasonal employment) without additional education and/or training, new or additional activities designed to increase the family income may be assigned, which may preclude continuation of existing employment or self-employment.
9. These operating principles apply to all participants according to their needs, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability or sexual orientation.

Type of Employment Services

Connecticut's Jobs First Employment Services is a "balanced work first" program. This means that if the welfare recipient is capable of going to work, he or she is expected to work. It also means that if welfare recipients are capable of working, but need education or training to improve earnings to better support their families, they will generally be expected to work while receiving that training. In some cases, work follows immediately upon completion of intensive, short-term training or education.

To attain all three program goals, Jobs First Employment Services include a combination of job search, employment, education, training and support services.

The combination of services varies with each individual participant. This balance of employment activity with other services utilizes individual strengths and resources while addressing employment-related needs. This balanced work first approach ensures that participants will not only become independent, but will remain independent from assistance while the federal participation rates are met.

Each participant, including volunteers, may receive employment services that include, but are not limited to the following: orientation, assessment, case management, employment plan development, barrier resolution, employment related education and training programs, subsidized employment, job search skill training, job placement services, case management, support services (such as Special Benefits), retention services, and re-employment services.

Post-secondary education (two and four year degree programs) is not an allowable Jobs First employment service. Self-initiated participation in such educational programs may co-exist with approved plan activities if funded with other resources, to the extent that such enrollment does not preclude participation in required plan activities.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 15. Continued

Entry into Jobs First Employment Services

Initial entry into the Jobs First Employment Services Program is through a referral from the Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS conducts a service needs assessment of the TFA recipient during or soon after the initial TFA intake interview. The service needs assessment includes gathering information from the recipients on their education, employment and training history; time on assistance and social service needs. The results of the human needs assessment are then forwarded to the local *CT Works* office.

CT Works Intake

Intake sessions include an orientation**,** employability assessment, initial employment plan development, eligibility determination for separately funded employment programs, assignment of a case manager and assignment to initial employment plan activities by either Regional Workforce Development Board (RWDB) staff and/or case managers.

All new participants for employment services must attend an intake session. However, special accommodations are made for participants who cannot attend the group sessions due to their employment schedule. These participants are scheduled for separate individual appointments at times that do not interfere with work hours. If necessary, the intake session can be conducted in a combination of phone interviews and mailed correspondence. Participants are not required to miss work, training or a job interview to attend any employment services activity.

Every participant leaves the intake session with a clear understanding of the next step in his/her employment plan, the name and phone number of his/her case manager and a copy of his/her employment plan.

Case Management

After intake into *CT Works*, the assigned case manager in conjunction with the participant completes the employment plan. The case manager arranges for services, and tracks and monitors the participant to ensure progression towards independence from cash assistance. If the participant does not comply with the provisions of the employment plan without good cause, the case manager refers the participant to the DSS for conciliation and possible sanctioning.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 15. Continued

Special Benefits and Childcare Assistance

To facilitate maximum participation, TFA applicants or recipients who participate in employment services are supported by special benefit payments.

Transportation benefits are provided to participants of regular, on-going employment services activities other than unsubsidized employment. Payment is made for bus fares or mileage for driving private automobiles. Bus fares are as charged, not to exceed ten dollars per day. Payment for mileage for private automobiles is two dollars for up to the first ten miles, and twenty cents per mile after that up to a maximum of fifty miles per day.

A participation allowance which is intended to assist participants with transportation and baby-sitting expenses is provided for short-term, intermittent employment services activities that last no longer than five consecutive days. Payment is ten dollars per day up to a maximum of fifty dollars in the month.

Ongoing childcare assistance is provided through DSS's Child Care Assistance Program.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 16. Employment Success Program

This program is designed to identify and immediately address barriers to employment as part of the initial Jobs First Employment Services assessment process. The goal is to increase successful employment outcomes and reduce the likelihood of ongoing dependency of the Jobs First program. Also clients with serious conditions are identified and an evaluation for an incapacity exemption from the time-limited program is made.

This program serves to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

D. 17. Family Resource Centers

Operated through the State Department of Education, these centers are designed to promote comprehensive, integrated, community-based systems of family support and child development. There are no income or asset limits for this program.

These services encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families and prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births.

Family Resource Centers provide or collaborate with existing agencies to operate full-time preschool childcare, school-age childcare, families–in-training (including home visiting and monitoring of child development for new and expectant parents), adult education, support and training for family daycare providers, positive youth development services, and resource and referral services.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 18. Fatherhood Initiative

Connecticut's fatherhood initiative is a broad-based, statewide program led by the Department of Social Services that focuses on changing the systems that can improve fathers' ability to be fully and positively involved in the lives of their children.

The program's objectives are as follows –

- Promote public education concerning the financial and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood
- Assist men in preparing for the legal, financial and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood
- Promote the establishment of paternity at childbirth
- Encourage fathers, regardless of marital status, to foster their emotional connection to and financial support of their children
- Establish support mechanisms for fathers in their relationship with their children, regardless of their marital and financial status
- Integrate state and local services available for families

This program encourages the formation and maintenance of two parent families.

D. 19. Individual Performance Contracts (IPCs)

Families that are at risk of becoming ineligible for an extension due to non-compliance with Employment Services at the end of the 21 month time limit are offered an IPC. Components of an IPC include intensive short-term case management and may also include job training, job search, volunteer work, participation in parenting programs, counseling or any other requirements that will lead to independence from TFA benefits.

If, by the end of the twenty-one (21) month time limit, the individual is successfully meeting the requirements of the IPC and does not incur an additional penalty for non-compliance with Employment Services, the family is considered to meet the good faith effort criteria for qualifying for an extension.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 20. Inter-District Cooperative Grants

The State Department of Education (SDE) funds school districts to offer programs that expand and enrich student's educational experience above and beyond basic education and also encourage diversity. The types of programs funded include after-school and extended year enrichment programs and mentoring programs. There are no income guidelines for this program.

These services prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births because they address at-risk behaviors that can lead to out-of-wedlock births.

D. 21. Judicial Branch Counseling Services Program

The Judicial Branch provides mental health counseling services in the three state detention centers. Judicial contracts with private providers for services such as: psychiatric assessment, psychotropic medication management, licensed clinical social work assessment and treatment, substance abuse assessment and short-term treatment and psycho-education for the child and the parent(s). The assessment and counseling services are claimed under TANF and the medical services are not.

The services provided through this program helps to prevent out of wedlock births (purpose 3 of TANF). The mental health and substance abuse services available in the state detention centers provide much needed assessment and early intervention for youths presenting with these types of issues. The research literature shows that children placed in detention for delinquent behavior are at high-risk for further involvement with the criminal justice system. High-risk adolescents involved with the court are also at high-risk or already have a history of out-of-wedlock pregnancy, school failure and unemployment. The adolescent detention population is disproportionately over-represented by children from high conflict families and the children can often continue in the family legacy of family instability.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 22. Leadership, Education, Athletics in Partnership (LEAP) Program

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) funds the Leadership, Education, Athletics in Partnership (LEAP) program. This program provides neighborhood-based education and mentoring programs that match low-income children, ages 7 to 14, with high school and college student counselors. The children meet with their mentors after school and during the summer. This program helps to prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births.

D. 23. Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)

The MST program operated by the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, serves to address the behavioral health needs of high-risk youth to reduce their risky behaviors, such as substance abuse, and improve school, family, and social functioning. This is a family and community based program. The services identify family/client strengths, help the client/family define goals, and provide instruction on ways to prevent the recurrence of delinquent behavior and other family conflict, as well as establishing resources and skills to maintain ongoing progress.

These services are considered "non assistance," as they do not provide for basic needs like food, shelter, and clothing. In addition, the services are provided to "needy families," which is described as having an income level below 75% of the state median income for family size.

This program supports purpose one of the TANF program, which is to provide assistance to "needy families" so that children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of caretaker relatives. Federal TANF Funds are used for this program to support activities for United States citizens only. Non-TANF funds are used for the activities of non-citizens.

Effective 10/1/06 federal TANF funds are used in this program to support activities for United States citizens only. Non-TANF funds are used for the activities of non-citizens.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 24. Neighborhood Youth Centers

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) offers competitive grants to priority cities to create and maintain neighborhood youth centers. The grantees must use the funds to provide skill development training, tutoring, parental involvement, and other supportive services. These services take place during after-school hours. There are no income guidelines for this program. This program prevents and reduces the incidence of out-of-wedlock births.

D. 25. Outreach

These services include activities that provide information about TANF and related services or programs for which low income families might be eligible, including Medicaid and SCHIP.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 26. Priority School Districts Grants

The State Department of Education provides funds to priority school districts to fund extended school hour programs, summer programs, parent involvement programs, drop-out prevention, and alternative programs for students. These services are offered through extended hours and extended year programs. These programs are targeted to poor school districts and offer support services outside of basic education that are designed to foster success and result in enhanced opportunities for children as they mature into adulthood.

The services offered under these programs are targeted to children of needy families, although services are provided to all children within the school district who would benefit by receiving the service.

The services provided help prevent the incidence of out-of-wedlock births and to promote the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

D. 27. Priority School Districts, Extended Hours

The State Department of Education provides funds to priority school districts to fund extended day programs that offer academic enrichment and recreational programs in hours beyond the normal school term and alternative programs for students. These services are offered through extended hours and extended year programs. These programs are targeted to poor school districts and offer support services outside of basic education that are designed to foster success and result in enhanced opportunities for children as they mature into adulthood. The services provided help prevent the incidence of out-of-wedlock births and to promote the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

The services offered under these programs are targeted to children of needy families, although services are provided to all children within the school district who would benefit by receiving the service.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 28. Protective Services for Children (Emergency Assistance) Foster Care Months 1-4

These services are provided when conditions exist requiring the intervention of the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Services or payment for services for the child or family is provided to deal with the conditions that caused the need for the services. The services provided are those identified by DCF needed to meet the needs of the child. These include foster care maintenance payments for temporary placement outside of the home as well as foster care payments for up to four months. Also included are case management services for preventive services, court-related activities, and foster care.

These services were authorized through the Emergency Assistance (EA) program described in Connecticut's IV-A State Plan in effect on September 30, 1995 and are provided to enable children of needy families to remain in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 29. Safety Net Services

Safety Net services are available to families who have exhausted the 21-month time limit of TFA benefits, are not eligible for an extension due to non-compliance with employment services requirements and have income below the payment standard for the appropriate family size. This program works to 1) minimize the likelihood of harm to the children, 2) stabilize families and assist with access to resources to strengthen parenting skills and protect children and 3) assist families to attain and maintain employment through the identification and amelioration of existing psychological, personal and structural barriers.

Services provided include the following.

- Home based outreach services during non-traditional hours (early mornings and weekends)
- Intensive family support services that are based on mutual trust and respect
- Availability of a regional clinical staff that is bilingual, bicultural, and available for in-home or office based clinical assessments, referrals and follow-up
- Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of family strengths and risk factors using a unique tool designed for the program
- Family focus and environmental systems approach

This program is designed to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

Effective 10/1/06 Non-TANF funds are used to provide basic needs payments for rent, utilities and food for some families receiving Safety Net Services.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 30. Special Population Program

The Special Population Program, operated out of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, serves young adults in three different subgroups:

- young adults with psychiatric disorders in a transitional living program who are transitioning to independent living from the Department of Children and Families;
- young adults with Pervasive Developmental Disorders and history of high risk behaviors;
- young adults with psychiatric disorders and psychosexual behavioral problems who have demonstrated a history of sexually aggressive behavior.

Each of these populations has clients who are at risk for producing unwanted or out-of-wedlock pregnancies. Young adult services staff identify this risk factor in their clients and provide intervention to lessen the risk.

This program is in support of the third purpose of the TANF program, which is to reduce and prevent the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies. Since this program qualifies for TANF under purpose 3, it can be provided to both needy and non-needy families and individuals.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 31. Striving Toward Achievement, Renewal and Success program (STARS)

The General Assembly appropriates funds annually to the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch to fund the Striving Toward Achievement, Renewal and Success program (STARS). This is a gender-specific program for women age 16 and older who have been involved with the criminal justice system. The goal of the STARS program is to help address the issues that have contributed to the destructive, risky behaviors of these women. It is these risky behaviors that can often lead to out-of-wedlock pregnancy (some of the participants already have a child/ren). The program environment is positive, safe, and trusting and helps to foster self-esteem and motivation among the participants in the program with the intention that they will ultimately make better life choices. There are no income guidelines for this program. This program utilizes federal TANF funds.

This program supports the third purpose of the TANF program, which is to reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancy.

D. 32. Teen Pregnancy Prevention

The Department of Social Services funds twelve pregnancy prevention programs that include a component that requires the grantees to work more intensively with at risk teens of both sexes. Programs include components to comprehensively address family issues including health, education and other life issues.

The DSS has contracted with a program evaluator to ascertain which program methods, or aspects of different programs are most effective. The department has also contracted with the University of Connecticut Health Center to act as coordinator of the various teenage pregnancy prevention efforts across the state. In this capacity, the health center provides technical assistance and information and works with state agencies to minimize duplicated efforts and to secure current data.

The DSS has also worked with the Department of Public Health to include the collection of marital status information on birth certificates to allow more accurate data collection on out-of-wedlock pregnancies. DSS has set goals for reducing the number out-of-wedlock pregnancies for teens between the ages of 15 and 19 to no more than 25 births per 1,000 for FFY 2006, 24 births per 1,000 in FFY 2007 & 23 births per 1,000 in FFY 2008.

D. SERVICES & NON-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

D. 33. Transportation Programs

Connecticut funds five regional programs to assist families in overcoming barriers to employment due to lack of transportation. Each of the region's programs is designed to meet the needs of the families in their area. Initiatives include new bus routes to target areas with employment opportunities that were previously inaccessible by public transportation; extended hours of bus service to provide transportation for individuals working in the evenings; coordination with Connecticut's Rideshare Company to provide vans where transportation gaps exist; and providing a guaranteed free ride home for participants in the case of illness or a family emergency. The income limit is 75% of the state's median income level. These funds may be used as a match for the Federal Job Access and Reverse Commute grant.

D. 34. Young Parents Program

The State Department of Education (SDE) provides funds for programs to help teen parents stay in school. The funds are used to cover transportation costs for teen parents and their children to and from school and child-care facilities. The funds are also used to operate parenting education programs and prevention programs for teens that are at-risk of becoming teen parents. There are no income guidelines for this program.

These services prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births because programs that help teens stay in school support this purpose (i.e. purpose 3) of the TANF program.

D. 35. Youth Services Bureau

The State Department of Education (SDE) grants funds to school districts to support at-risk youth in their communities by addressing issues related to social development, mental health, and physical well-being. The bureaus provide counseling on at-risk behaviors such as out-of-wedlock births. There are no income guidelines for this program. Federal TANF funds are utilized for these services.

These services prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock births.

SECTION A
PART II

WORK REQUIREMENTS

(ii) – This Work Requirements part describes how the state intends to require a parent or caretaker relative receiving assistance under the program to engage in work (as defined by the state) once the state determines the parent or caretaker is ready to engage in work, or once the parent or caretaker has received assistance under the program for 24 months (whether or not consecutive), whichever is earlier.

Work Requirements

Upon entering the time-limited program all adult recipients must participate in work activities, unless specifically exempted by state regulation. A person is exempt if he or she is incapacitated; age 60 or older; responsible for the care of an incapacitated family member; a non-parent caretaker relative who does not receive assistance; caring for a child under the age of one who is not subject to the family cap; pregnant or postpartum if a physician has certified that she is unable to work; or unemployable. Minor parents are exempt if attending and satisfactorily completing high school or high school equivalency programs.

SECTION A
PART III

WORK ACTIVITIES

(iii) – This Work Activities part describes how the state intends to ensure that parents and caretakers receiving assistance under the program engage in work activities in accordance with section 407.

Recipients are required to engage in work activities as prescribed by their employability plans. Failure to participate without good cause results in a penalty being imposed on the entire family.

During the twenty-one month time limit, the penalty for not participating becomes progressively more severe. For the first instance of failure to participate, the penalty is a 25% reduction in the family's TFA payment for three months. For the second instance of non-compliance, the penalty is a 35% reduction in the TFA payment for three months. For all subsequent instances of non-compliance during the twenty-one month time limit, the penalty is ineligibility for TFA payments for three months. Also, when the adult who fails to comply is the only recipient of TFA, the assistance unit of one is ineligible for benefits for three consecutive months for the first, second and third offense. The three months that the family does not receive TFA payments do not count in determining twenty-one months of time limited eligibility.

If the family is penalized more than one time during the twenty-one month time limit, they are given the opportunity to participate in an Individual Performance Contract (IPC). If the IPC is successfully completed an extension may be granted. If the IPC is unsuccessful no future extension is allowed unless the family experiences special circumstances such as domestic violence or it becomes exempt from work requirements.

If a family fails to participate without good cause during an extension, the penalty is ineligibility for the remainder of the extension period. No future extension is allowed unless the family experiences special circumstances such as domestic violence.

(iii) – Continued

The following are the categories and state definitions of the **Work Activities** utilized in Connecticut's program:

Work Activity Categories:

1. Unsubsidized Employment
2. Subsidized Private Sector Employment
3. Subsidized Public Sector Employment
4. On-the-Job Training
5. Job Search and Job Readiness Assistance
6. Work Experience
7. Community Service Programs
8. Vocational Educational Training Not to Exceed 12 Months
9. Child Care for an Individual Participating in Community Service Program
10. Job Skills Training Directly Related to Employment
11. Education Directly Related to Employment
12. Satisfactory Attendance at Secondary School or a GED program

State Definitions of Countable Work Activities

1. **Unsubsidized Employment:** Full- or part-time employment in the public or private sector that is not subsidized by TANF or any other public program.

2. **Subsidized Private Sector Employment:** Employment in the private sector for which the employer receives a subsidy from TANF or other public funds to offset some or all of the wages and costs of employing a recipient.

3. **Subsidized Public Sector Employment:** Employment in the public sector for which the employer receives a subsidy from TANF or other public funds to offset some or all of the wages and costs of employing a recipient. This includes work-study and stipend programs.

4. **On-the-Job Training:** Training in the public or private sector that is given to a paid employee while he or she is engaged in productive work and that provides knowledge and skills essential to the full and adequate performance of the job.

(iii) – Continued

5. **Job Search and Job Readiness Assistance:** The act of seeking or obtaining employment, preparation to seek or obtain employment, including life skills training, and short-term substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, or rehabilitation activities for those who are otherwise employable. Such treatment or therapy must be determined to be necessary and certified by a qualified medical or mental health professional. Job search and job readiness assistance activities must be supervised by the TANF agency or other responsible party on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily. This activity is limited by statute to six weeks per year (no more than four weeks may be consecutive to count toward the work participation rates).

6. **Work Experience:** A work activity performed in return for welfare, that provides an individual with an opportunity to acquire the general skills, training, knowledge, and work habits necessary to obtain employment. The purpose of work experience is to improve the employability of those who cannot find unsubsidized employment. This activity must be supervised by an employer, work site sponsor, or other responsible party on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily.

7. **Community Service Programs:** Structured programs in which TANF recipients perform work for the direct benefit of the community under the auspices of public or nonprofit organizations. Community service programs must be limited to projects that serve a useful community purpose in fields such as health, social service, environmental protection, education, urban and rural redevelopment, welfare, recreation, public facilities, public safety, and childcare. Community service programs are designed to improve the employability of recipients not otherwise able to obtain employment, and must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily. A State agency shall take into account, to the extent possible, the prior training, experience, and skills of a recipient in making appropriate community service assignments.

8. **Vocational Educational Training Not to Exceed 12 Months**:
Organized educational programs that are directly related to the preparation of individuals for employment in current or emerging occupations requiring training other than a baccalaureate or advanced degree. Vocational educational training must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily and may include work-focused general education and language instruction.

(iii) – Continued

9. **Child Care for an Individual Participating in a Community Service Program:** Providing childcare to enable another TANF recipient to participate in a community service program. This activity must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily.

10. **Job Skills Training Directly Related to Employment:** Training or education for job skills required by an employer to provide an individual with the ability to obtain employment or to advance or adapt to the changing demands of the workplace. Job skills training directly related to employment must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily. Hours spent participating in unsupervised study time are not counted.

11. **Education Directly Related to Employment:** Education related to a specific occupation, job, or job offer. Education directly related to employment must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily.

12. **Satisfactory Attendance at Secondary School or in a GED Program:** Regular attendance, in accordance with the requirements of the secondary school or course of study, at a secondary school or in a course of study leading to a certificate of general equivalence, in the case of a recipient who has not completed secondary school or received such a certificate. This activity must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily.

SECTION A
PART IV

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

(iv) – This Safeguarding Information part describes how the state intends to take such reasonable steps as the state deems necessary to restrict the use and disclosure of information about individuals and families receiving assistance under the program attributable to funds provided by the Federal Government.

The use and disclosure of information about individuals and families receiving assistance under the program is restricted. The department releases information concerning recipients only for purposes directly connected with the administration of the department's programs; an investigation, prosecution, or civil or criminal proceeding related to the administration of the department's program; the administration of any other federal or federally assisted program which provides assistance in cash, or in kind, or services directly to individuals on the basis of need; certification of receipt of assistance to an employer for the purposes of claiming a tax credit; an audit or similar activity conducted in connection with the administration of the program by any governmental entity authorized by law to conduct such audit or activity. The department also discloses, upon request by law enforcement officers, the address of any recipient who is wanted on charges of a felony or high misdemeanor or who is in violation of parole or probation. Any suspected cases of child neglect or abuse are reported to the Department of Children and Families.

SECTION A
PART V

TEEN-PREGNANCY PREVENTION

(v) – This Teen-Pregnancy Prevention part describes how the state intends to establish goals and take action to prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies, with special emphasis on teenage pregnancies, and establish numerical goals for reducing the illegitimacy ratio of the state (as defined in section 403(a)(2)(B)) for calendar years 2005 through 2008.

The Department of Social Services funds twelve pregnancy prevention programs that include a component that requires the grantees to work more intensively with at risk teens of both sexes. Programs include components to comprehensively address family issues including health, education and other life issues.

The department has contracted with a program evaluator to ascertain which program methods, or aspects of different programs are most effective. The department has also contracted with the University of Connecticut Health Center to act as coordinator of the various teenage pregnancy prevention efforts across the state. In this capacity, the health center provides technical assistance and information and works with state agencies to minimize duplicated efforts and to secure current data.

The department worked with the Department of Public Health to include the collection of marital status information on birth certificates to allow more accurate data collection on out-of-wedlock pregnancies. DSS has set numerical goals for reducing the number out-of-wedlock pregnancies for teens between the ages of 15 and 19 to no more than 25 births per 1,000 for FFY 2006, 24 births per 1,000 in FFY 2007and 23 births per 1,000 in FFY 2008.

SECTION A
PART VI

STATUTORY RAPE

(vi) – This Statutory Rape part describes how the state intends to conduct a program, designed to reach state and local law enforcement officials, the education system, and relevant counseling services, that provides education and training on the problem of statutory rape so that teenage pregnancy prevention programs may be expanded in scope to include men.

The Governor has declared that statutory rape laws be enforced throughout the state and convened an interagency group to develop a protocol for referral of statutory rape cases. She has appointed a special prosecutor to enforce the statutory rape laws in Hartford. Hartford is the city with the highest teen birth rate in the state. In addition, the Department of Social Services has notified all of its employees that information pertaining to any possible case of statutory rape should be referred to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) for investigation of possible child abuse. DCF may further refer the case to the Chief State's Attorney's Office for prosecution. DSS also encourages the victim and her family to report the case to the Chief State's Attorney's Office.

DSS together with the Department of Public Health completed a media campaign with two focuses. The first was to educate women about their rights and the statutory rape laws. The second focus targeted young men to inform them that statutory rape is a crime in Connecticut and will be prosecuted. Brochures were developed and distributed to schools and local community agencies.

Teen-pregnancy prevention programs funded by DSS work intensively with young men as well as young women to address issues of health, education and other life issues.

SECTION B

SECTION B
PART I

TREATMENT OF FAMILIES MOVING INTO THE STATE

Sec. 402(a)(1)(B)

(i) – This Treatment of Families Moving into the State part indicates whether the state intends to treat families moving into the state from another state differently than other families under the program, and if so, how the state intends to treat such families under the program.

The state does not treat families moving into the state from another state differently than other families under the program.

SECTION B
PART II

TREATMENT OF NON-CITIZENS

Sec. 402(a)(1)(B)

(ii) – This Treatment of Non Citizens part indicates whether the state intends to provide assistance under the program to individuals who are not citizens of the United States, and if so, shall include an overview of such assistance.

Connecticut provides assistance to mandatory and optional qualified aliens, as defined in Title IV of P.L. 104 - 193. All eligibility requirements, level of benefits and other provisions that pertain to U.S. citizens also apply to these non-citizens.

Optional qualified aliens are required to live in the state for six months prior to applying for assistance. This requirement does not apply to mandatory qualified aliens, victims of domestic violence or persons with mental retardation.

Aliens determined eligible for assistance must pursue citizenship to the extent possible. This requirement does not apply to victims of domestic violence or persons with mental retardation.

SECTION B
PART III

OBJECTIVE CRITERIA

Sec. 402(a)(1)(B)

(iii) – This Objective Criteria part sets forth objective criteria for the delivery of the benefits and the determination of eligibility and for fair and equitable treatment, including an explanation of how the state will provide opportunities for recipients who have been adversely affected to be heard in a state administrative or appeal process.

Connecticut's Objective Criteria

The State of Connecticut has developed objective criteria for the delivery of benefits, the determination of eligibility, and for fair and equitable treatment. These criteria are described in official state policies and regulations. The policies and regulations have been legally adopted under applicable provisions of state law.

Connecticut's objective criteria for delivery of benefits and determination of eligibility for TFA include standards of promptness for the determination of eligibility, periodic reviews of eligibility, standards of verification, determination of good cause for not complying with employment services requirements, and treatment and limits on income and resources.

The standard of promptness is forty-five days from the date of application for inactive cases. If the family applies for an extension of benefits before the end of the twenty-one month time limit or extension, the standard of promptness is 30 days.

Periodic reviews of eligibility are every twelve months and in the twentieth month of the time limit.

Documents are the primary sources of verification. Affidavits are accepted when other sources of verification are not available. The preponderance of evidence is the department's standard of verification.

Good cause for non-compliance with and employment services activity is defined as circumstances beyond a person's control that reasonably prevent a person from participating in an activity.

Earned income of recipients is totally excluded up to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Once earnings reach the FPL, the family becomes ineligible for assistance. Unearned income must be less than the department's standard of need for a family to be eligible for TFA.

The resource limit is $3,000. Families are allowed to own a vehicle with an equity value less than $9,500 or a vehicle used to transport a handicapped family member.

Benefits are paid through electronic benefits transfer into an account that may be accessed by the eligible family. The department may limit a person's control over an account through restricted payment or by providing payment directly to a third party when it has been determined that the person has mismanaged his or her finances.

Connecticut's Appeals Process

Connecticut provides timely and adequate notice prior to taking an adverse action and provides opportunities for the recipients who have been adversely affected to be heard in a state administered appeals process. There are set time limits for requesting and holding hearings and issuing decisions. Hearings are presented before impartial hearing officers. Clients are allowed to present a case, bring witnesses, ask questions and cross-examine. If the client is unhappy with the decision, he or she may request reconsideration or appeal to the courts.

SECTION B
PART IV

WORK OPTION

Sec. 402(a)(1)(B)

(iv) - Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, unless the chief executive officer of the state opts out of this provision by notifying the Secretary, a state shall, consistent with the exception provided in section 407(e)(2), require a parent or caretaker receiving assistance under the program who, after receiving assistance for 2 months is not exempt from work requirements and is not engaged in work, as determined under section 407(c), to participate in community service employment, with minimum hours per week and tasks to be determined by the state.

On September 25, 1996, the Governor sent a letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to opt out of this provision. While the state will continue to use community service as a work activity, requiring every parent or caretaker do it after two months of assistance is not consistent with the design of the Jobs First program.

SECTION C

SECTION C

CERTIFICATIONS

STATE PLAN CERTIFICATIONS

The State of Connecticut will operate a program to provide Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) so that the 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.

The Chief Executive Officer of the state is Governor M. Jodi Rell.

CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL OPERATE A CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

The state will operate a child support enforcement program under the State Plan approved under part D.

CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL OPERATE A FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The state will operate a foster care and adoption assistance program under the State Plan approved under part E, and the state will take such actions as are necessary to ensure that children receiving assistance under such part are eligible for medical assistance under the State Plan under title XIX.

CERTIFICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM

The Department of Social Services is the agency responsible for the administration and supervision of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

The state has given local governments and private sector organizations the opportunity to comment on the design of the services provided by the program described in this plan. The department also gives notice and seeks comments from the public any time it amends its regulations.

SECTION C

CERTIFICATIONS

Any one wishing to comment has had at least 45 days to submit comments on the substance of the plan and the design of such services.

CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL PROVIDE INDIANS WITH EQUITABLE ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE

The state will provide each member of an Indian tribe, who is domiciled in the state and not eligible for assistance under a tribal family assistance plan approved under section 412, with equitable access to assistance under the state program funded under this part attributable to funds provided by the federal government.

CERTIFICATION OF STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE AGAINST PROGRAM FRAUD AND ABUSE

The state has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to insure 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.

OPTIONAL CERTIFICATION OF STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT THE STATE WILL SCREEN FOR AND IDENTIFY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Although standards and procedures have been developed to ensure that the state will screen for and identify domestic violence, Connecticut has decided not to include this optional certification at this time

Certified by the Governor of Connecticut

_____ _____

Date M. Jodi Rell

ADDENDUM A

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)
STATE PLAN

ADDENDUM A

TEMPORARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT STANDARDS

1. The State of Connecticut is divided into three geographic regions on the basis of similarity in the cost of living.
2. Separate TFA payment levels are established for each region.
3. The regional breakdown of the state by cities and towns is as follows:

REGION A

Bethel	Greenwich	Norwalk	Stamford
Bridgewater	New Canaan	Redding	Washington
Brookfield	New Fairfield	Ridgefield	Weston
Danbury	New Milford	Roxbury	Westport
Darien	Newtown	Sherman	Wilton

REGION B

Andover	East Haven	Marlborough	Simsbury
Ashford	East Lyme	Meriden	Somers
Avon	Easton	Middlefield	Southington
Berlin	East Windsor	Middletown	South Windsor
Bethany	Ellington	Milford	Sprague
Bloomfield	Enfield	Monroe	Stafford
Bolton	Essex	Montville	Sterling
Bozrah	Fairfield	New Britain	Stonington
Branford	Farmington	New Haven	Stratford
Bridgeport	Franklyn	Newington	Suffield
Bristol	Glastonbury	New London	Thompson
Brooklyn	Granby	North Branford	Tolland
Burlington	Griswold	North Haven	Trumbull
Canterbury	Groton	North Stonington	Union
Canton	Guilford	Norwich	Vernon
Chaplin	Haddam	Old Lyme	Voluntown
Chester	Hamden	Old Saybrook	Wallingford
Clinton	Hampton	Orange	Waterford
Colchester	Hartford	Plainfield	Westbrook
Columbia	Hebron	Plainville	West Hartford
Coventry	Killingly	Plymouth	West Haven
Cromwell	Killingworth	Pomfret	Wethersfield
Deep River	Lebanon	Portland	Willington
Durham	Ledyard	Preston	Windsor
Eastford	Lisbon	Putnam	Windsor Locks
East Granby	Lyme	Rocky Hill	Woodbridge
East Haddam	Madison	Salem	Woodstock
East Hampton	Manchester	Scotland	
East Hartford	Mansfield	Shelton	

ADDENDUM A

TEMPORARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT STANDARDS

REGION C

Ansonia	Goshen	Norfolk	Torrington
Barkhamsted	Hartland	North Canaan	Warren
Beacon Falls	Harwinton	Oxford	Waterbury
Bethlehem	Kent	Prospect	Watertown
Canaan	Litchfield	Salisbury	Winchester
Cheshire	Middlebury	Seymour	Wolcott
Colebrook	Morris	Sharon	Woodbury
Cornwall	Naugatuck	Southbury	
Derby	New Hartford	Thomaston	

TEMPORARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT STANDARDS

FAMILY SIZE	REGION A	REGION B	REGION C
1	$415	$ 344	$344
2	529	457	457
3	656	560	553
4	765	659	642
5	862	754	731
6	965	853	831
7	1,073	963	933
8	1,180	1,064	1,033
9	1,267	1,152	1,121
10	1,384	1,259	1,248