

FY 2019 TAFDC and EAEDC Improvements – DTA Implementation Plans

Provision	Prospective Implementation	Retroactive Benefits	Who is Helped	Questions
Disregard of 100% of earned income for first 6 months TAFDC recipient is working or first 6 months after application whichever is later, provided total household income does not exceed 200% FPL, St. 2018, c. 154, § 55	<p>October 2018: DTA is no longer counting earned income for TAFDC</p> <p>November 2018: DTA will not count earned income for 6 months provided total household income does not exceed 200% FPL</p>	December 2018: DTA will pay retroactive benefits to households with earned income who received a lower amount of TAFDC between July 1, 2018 and October 1, 2018.	<p>Families with earned income will get much higher grants for up to 6 months. That is not enough to stabilize a family but is certainly good.</p> <p>Families who otherwise would have lost benefits because of earnings will get up to 6 months of benefits and will not be subject to child care co-payments during those 6 mos.</p>	<p>DTA says it will invite families whose cases closed on or after July 1, 2018 because of earned income to reapply (and get retroactive benefits) using less restrictive applicant eligibility rules. How will this process work?</p> <p>Will DTA pay retroactive benefits to former recipients who do not want to reapply or are not prospectively eligible?</p>
Eliminating lower grant for TAFDC recipients who are subject to work requirement, St. 2018, c. 154, § 55	November 2018: DTA will eliminate the grant disparity prospectively.	December 2018: DTA will pay retroactive benefits to households who received the lower grant back to July 1, 2018	Eliminating lower grant helps to simplify the program. Maximum grant for 3-person household subject to work requirement with no countable income increases from \$578 to \$593/mo.	<p>Will DTA try to find and pay retroactive benefits to former recipients whose cases closed on or after July 1, 2018?</p> <p>Will DTA try to find and pay retroactive benefits to former applicants who were denied on or after July 1, 2018 because of the lower grant eligibility levels?</p>
Increasing TAFDC asset limit from \$2,500 to \$5,000, St. 2018, c. 154, § 53	November 2018: DTA will implement asset increase prospectively		Some help to a small number of families, including those with car over the \$15K limit. Other states have eliminated asset test altogether to simplify the program and align with SNAP.	Will DTA try to find, reinstate, and pay retroactive benefits back to July 1, 2018 to applicants who were denied and former recipients whose cases closed because they were over the asset limit?
Eliminating homeless penalty for EAEDC, St. 2018, c. 154, item 4408-1000	November 2018: DTA will implement elimination of the homeless penalty prospectively	November 2018: DTA will pay retroactive benefits to recipients who received the lower grant back to July 1, 2018	EAEDC grant for single homeless adult increases from \$92.80 to \$303.70/mo.	Will DTA try to find, reinstate, and pay retroactive benefits back to applicants who were denied and former recipients whose cases closed because of the very low maximum benefit before July 1, 2018?