

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

State: Pennsylvania **Fiscal Year to which credit applies:** 2015

Overall Report (check one)
 Two-parent Report

Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? yes
 no

PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005
 (Complete this section for EACH change)

1. **Name of eligibility change:** Exclusion of Interest Income Earned on Savings Bonds and Certain Interest-Bearing Accounts
2. **Implementation date of eligibility change:** April 5, 2006
3. **Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:** Interest earned on savings bonds and on the following checking and savings accounts is excluded as both unearned income and a resource in the month of receipt: checking and savings accounts (including pass book accounts), statement accounts, NOW and Super NOW accounts, money market deposit accounts, certifications of deposit (CDs), and Christmas/Vacation clubs.
4. **Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form):** The impact due to this eligibility change is negligible since any interest amount on the small resource limit for TANF (\$1,000) would be negligible and would, therefore, have no impact on the eligibility of the TANF family.

5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year:** 0

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State: <u>Pennsylvania</u>		Fiscal Year to which credit applies: <u>2015</u>	
Overall Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes
Two-parent Report	<input type="checkbox"/> (check one)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005 (Complete this section for EACH change)			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of eligibility change: Exclusion of Tax Refunds as Income or Resource 2. Implementation date of eligibility change: May 22, 2006 3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Generally, the receipt of tax refunds, including EIC and PA Tax Forgiveness, does not have a negative effect on the eligibility for or amount of any TANF cash assistance benefit, because TANF clients could simply spend down the amount in the first two months as it was previously excluded in that timeframe. County assistance workers previously had to track, verify and document the receipt of all state and IRS refunds to ensure that the refunds were disregarded correctly. Hence, this eligibility change was implemented in order to promote program efficiency. 4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): The impact due to this eligibility change is negligible since previously clients would have simply spent down the tax refund in the allotted timeframe. 			
5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: <u>0</u>			

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State: <u>Pennsylvania</u>		Fiscal Year to which credit applies: <u>2015</u>	
Overall Report	<u> x </u>	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate?	___ yes
Two-parent Report	___		(check one)
PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005 (Complete this section for EACH change)			
<p>1. Name of eligibility change: Changes to the Diversion Program</p> <p>2. Implementation date of eligibility change: March 28, 2008</p> <p>3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Previously, eligibility for the Diversion Program required that in order to qualify for Diversion, the individual must currently be employed or have a bona fide expectation of receiving earned or unearned income within 90 days of application. Additionally, the individual could apply for and receive cash assistance benefits during the Diversion period but would incur an overpayment.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Under new policy to qualify for the Diversion Program applicants must have an expectation of receiving income and must have a recent work history (within 90 days of application) or job skills training. In areas qualified as waived areas for time limited food stamp benefits, individuals must have work history within the past 180 days of application or job skills training. Our county offices will no longer have to verify new expected income in order to make a determination of whether or not the individual qualifies for Diversion. However, individuals who receive a Diversion payment shall be ineligible for TANF funds until the end of their Diversion Period.</p> <p>4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): The impact due to this eligibility change is negligible since caseload trends for the Diversion program have not changed since implementation of this policy.</p>			
<p>5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: <u>-948</u></p>			

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State: <u>Pennsylvania</u>		Fiscal Year to which credit applies: <u>2015</u>	
Overall Report	<u>x</u>	(check one)	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate?
Two-parent Report	___		___ yes <u>x</u> no
PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005 (Complete this section for EACH change)			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of eligibility change: Conversion of Solely State Funded program for households with disabled parent and 2-parent households 2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2007 3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Effective October 1, 2007 the State stopped claiming the disabled household and two-parent households of the cash assistance program as TANF or MOE expenditures. Effective October 1, 2007, cash assistance is provided to these households in a solely state funded program. There had been no changes in eligibility to evaluate for caseload effects. The average monthly caseload data for this group is ‘added back’ to the Average Monthly FFY 2014 Caseload. The state did not utilize TANF federal of State Maintenance of Effort dollars for this program as of October 1, 2007 and thus the effect was a reduction in the total SSP-MOE caseload. 4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): The impact of this change was calculated using extracted caseload data for FFY 2014. The estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload is based on the average caseload for budgets funded with State dollars that do not count toward MOE. These 1,238 cases are to be ‘added back’ to the TANF caseload to level the comparison to the FFY 2005 base year average monthly caseload. 			
5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: <u>-1,238</u>			

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State: Pennsylvania **Fiscal Year to which credit applies:** 2015

Overall Report <input type="checkbox"/> (check one) Two-parent Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
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PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005
(Complete this section for EACH change)

1. **Name of eligibility change:** Exclusion of Tax Refunds as Income or Resource

2. **Implementation date of eligibility change:** May 22, 2006

3. **Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:** Generally, the receipt of tax refunds including EIC and PA Tax Forgiveness, does not have a negative effect on the eligibility for or amount of any TANF cash assistance benefit, because TANF clients could simply spend down the amount in the first two months as it was previously excluded in that timeframe. County assistance workers previously had to track, verify and document the receipt of all state and IRS refunds to ensure that the refunds were disregarded correctly. Hence, this eligibility change was implemented in order to promote program efficiency.

4. **Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form):** The impact due to this eligibility change is negligible since previously clients would have simply spent down the tax refund in the allotted timeframe.

5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year:** 0

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State: Pennsylvania **Fiscal Year to which credit applies:** 2015

Overall Report <input type="checkbox"/> Two-parent Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (check one)	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
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PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005

(Complete this section for EACH change)

1. **Name of eligibility change:** Changes to the Diversion Program
2. **Implementation date of eligibility change:** March 28, 2008
3. **Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:** Previously, eligibility for the Diversion Program required that in order to qualify for Diversion, the individual must currently be employed or have a bona fide expectation of receiving earned or unearned income within 90 days of application. Additionally, the individual could apply for and receive cash assistance benefits during the Diversion period but would incur an overpayment.

Under new policy to qualify for the Diversion Program applicants must have an expectation of receiving income and must have a recent work history (within 90 days of application) or job skills training. In areas qualified as waived areas for time limited food stamp benefits, individuals must have work history within the past 180 days of application or job skills training. Our county offices will no longer have to verify new expected income in order to make a determination of whether or not the individual qualifies for Diversion. However, individuals who receive a Diversion payment shall be ineligible for TANF funds until the end of their Diversion Period.

4. **Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form):** The impact due to this eligibility change is negligible since caseload trends for the Diversion program have not changed since implementation of this policy.

5. **Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year:** -170

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State: <u>Pennsylvania</u>		Fiscal Year to which credit applies: <u>2015</u>	
Overall Report <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (check one)	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005 (Complete this section for EACH change)			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of eligibility change: Conversion of Solely State Funded program for households with disabled parent and 2-parent households 2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2007 3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Effective October 1, 2007 the State stopped claiming the disabled household and two-parent households of the cash assistance program as TANF or MOE expenditures. Effective October 1, 2007, cash assistance is provided to these households in a solely state funded program. There had been no changes in eligibility to evaluate for caseload effects. The average monthly caseload data for this group is ‘added back’ to the Average Monthly FFY 2014 Caseload. The state did not utilize TANF federal of State Maintenance of Effort dollars for this program as of October 1, 2007 and thus the effect was a reduction in the total SSP-MOE caseload. 4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): The impact of this change was calculated using extracted caseload data for FFY 2013. The estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload is based on the average caseload for budgets funded with State dollars that do not count toward MOE. These 228 cases are to be ‘added back’ to the TANF caseload to level the comparison to the FFY 2005 base year average monthly caseload. 			
5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: <u>-228</u>			

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PENNSYLVANIA		Fiscal Year to which credit applies:	2015
		Date of Completion:	12/16/2014
PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit			
<u>Impact of All Changes</u>		<u>Caseload Reduction Calculation</u>	
		FY 2005 TANF Caseload	96,635
		FY 2005 SSP Caseload	
		Total FY 2005 Caseload	96,635
		FY 2014 TANF Caseload	65,039
Transitional Cash Assistance	3,523	FY 2014 SSP Caseload	
		Total FY 2014 Caseload	65,039
		Excess MOE Cases in FY 2014	67
		Adjusted FY 2014 Caseload	64,972
TANF Diversion	-948	Caseload Decline	31,663 32.8%
		Decline – Net Impact	33,000
Adjustment for solely state funded families not counted toward MOE	-1,238		
		Caseload Reduction Credit =	32.8%
Net Impact	1,337		

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PENNSYLVANIA		Fiscal Year to which credit applies:		2015
		Date of Completion:		12/16/2014
<u>Excess MOE Calculation Worksheet</u>				
Caseload Data		Expenditure Data		
FY 2005 TANF Caseload	96,635	Total Expenditures		
FY 2005 SSP Caseload	0	FY 2014 Total Federal Expenditures		\$424,361,476
Total FY 2005 Caseload	96,635	FY 2014 Total MOE Expenditures		\$407,988,771
FY 2014 TANF Caseload	65,039	Total Expenditures (Federal + MOE)		\$832,350,247
FY 2014 SSP Caseload	0			
Total FY 2014 Caseload	65,039	Assistance Expenditures		
		FY 2014 Federal Expenditures on Assistance		\$232,023,042
2-Parent Caseload Data		FY 2014 MOE Expenditures on Assistance		\$30,907,131
FY 2005 2-p TANF Caseload	4,545	Total Expenditures on Assistance (Federal + MOE)		\$262,930,173
FY 2005 2-p SSP Caseload	0	Percentage of Expenditures on Assistance		31.59%
Total FY 2005 Caseload	4,545			
FY 2014 2-p TANF Caseload	964	Expenditures Per Case		
FY 2014 2-p SSP Caseload	0	Average Expenditures per Case		\$12,798
Total FY 2014 Caseload	964	Average Expenditures per Case on Assistance		\$4,043
		MOE and Excess MOE		
		Required MOE (80% or 75%)		\$407,126,000
		Excess MOE Expenditures		\$862,771
		Excess MOE Expenditures on Assistance		\$272,540
Adjusted Caseload Data				
Adjusted FY 2014 Overall Caseload	64,972	Assistance Cases Funded by Excess MOE		67
Adjusted FY 2014 2-parent Caseload	963	2-Parent Assistance Cases Funded by Excess MOE		1

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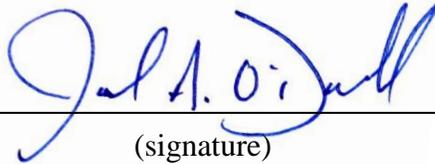
Date of Completion 12/15/14

State: Pennsylvania

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2015

PART 3 – Certification

I certify that we have provided the public an appropriate opportunity to comment on the estimates and methodology used to complete this report and considered those comments in completing it. Further, I certify that this report incorporates all reductions in the caseload resulting from State eligibility changes and changes in Federal requirements since Fiscal Year 2005.



(signature)

Joel A. O'Donnell

(name)

Director, Bureau of Program Evaluation

(title)