

**Arizona Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
State Plan Summary
(Effective October 1, 2011)**

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan (Plan) provides information on services funded using TANF or TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds. The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) is the TANF agency for the State of Arizona. The Plan provides an overview of DES, TANF-funded services, and eligibility requirements for those services.

Following is a list of the programs and services that DES provides using TANF funds:

- **Cash Assistance Program:** The Cash Assistance Program provides financial assistance for low-income families.
- **The Jobs Program:** The Jobs Program provides employment and training assistance for recipients of Cash Assistance benefits.
- **Child Care:** DES provides Child Care services to families receiving Cash Assistance benefits or to families that are transitioning off Cash Assistance.
- **Additional TANF-Funded Programs:**
 - *Short-Term Crisis Services:* This program provides help to households experiencing an emergent need that cannot be met with their own income and resources. Help provided can include emergency shelter, case management, eviction prevention or move-in assistance, utility deposits or payments, and other special services as appropriate to secure and maintain employment.
 - *Grant Diversion:* Participation in the Grant Diversion Program in lieu of Cash Assistance is voluntary for the applicant. Grant Diversion Program recipients are awarded a payment of three times the full monthly amount they would receive under Cash Assistance.
 - *Emergency Assistance:* DES has an Emergency Assistance Program that allows TANF funding to be used for services for children who are in out-of-home placement because of abuse or neglect. If the child is eligible, the program will pay for foster care maintenance costs for the child for up to 365 days from the date the child was placed in out-of-home care.
 - *Children Services:* the following services are provided for eligible children:
 - In-Home Services – Arizona uses TANF funds to provide in-home services to children involved in open Child Protective Services cases.
 - Out-of-Home Services – Some TANF funds are used to provide services to abused and neglected children in out-of-home care.
 - TANF Child-Only Cases – TANF funds are used to provide assistance to eligible dependent children in the legal custody of DES and placed in foster care with an unrelated adult or a nonparent relative who is not receiving Cash Assistance benefits.
 - *Coordinated Hunger Program:* TANF funds are used for food storage and distribution costs to support the statewide food bank network.

- *Healthy Families Arizona*: This community-based, multidisciplinary program serves at-risk families during pregnancy and after the birth of a baby, and it is designed to reduce stress, enhance parent-child interaction, promote child health and development, and minimize the incidence of abuse and neglect.
- *Adoption Services*: TANF funds support services that provide for the selection of a family, placement, and supervision of a child. These include adoption maintenance services, special services, and onetime, nonrecurring expenses.
- *Emergency Shelter Services*: Arizona uses TANF funds for emergency shelter and transitional housing for domestic violence victims and their children and to homeless families. Services include emergency shelter for up to 120 days, counseling, and supports such as case management, transportation, child care, and life skills training.
- *Legal and Lay-Legal Advocacy for Domestic Violence*: Arizona uses TANF funds to provide legal and lay-legal advocacy services for domestic violence victims and their children. The legal and lay-legal advocacy services include a range of legal assistance covering all civil matters that will help the victims and their children to become safe and self-sufficient.
- *Substance Abuse Treatment*: Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. (Families in Recovery Succeeding Together) provides nonmedical substance abuse treatment services to recipients of Cash Assistance benefits whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining or obtaining employment and parents, guardians, or custodians whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining, preserving, or reunifying the family.
- *Permanent Guardianship Subsidy*: This program provides assistance payments to permanent guardians of children who were in foster care and who are nonparent relatives or nonrelatives such as foster parents as defined in state statute.
- *TANF Funds Transferred to Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)*: Arizona has elected to transfer TANF funds to Title XX SSBG. These funds are used for programs or services for children or their families whose income is less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.
- *Native American Tribal TANF Program*: A number of Native American Tribes have exercised the option to develop a TANF Program and to submit their proposal to the federal government for approval. Arizona adopts the financial eligibility criteria the Native American Tribes have set to receive Tribal benefits or services as the state's standard of need for Tribal benefits from state maintenance of effort funds.

In addition, the State of Arizona provides teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock birth prevention services. The Plan identifies services provided throughout the state designed to prevent teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock births.