

# Self-Sufficiency Programs

## Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF)

House Human Services Committee Presentation

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# HB 2469 Highlights

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## HB 2469

### Highlights:

- Enhanced Pre-TANF with employability screenings, assessments and connections to employment
- Created Post-TANF program
- Created enhanced Pre-SSI/SSDI program
- Included job retention payments
- Wider range of JOBS activities funded, including barrier removal and training activities
- Enhanced funding for Family Support and Connections

## HB 2469 Early Outcomes

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Results from the new program design that began in October 2007 included:

- 1,000 more employment placements
- 9% increase in federal work participation rate
- JOBS program activity participation doubled
- 150% increase in SSI approvals
- 3,000 employed families received \$150 through Post-TANF to help their transition into new jobs and out of TANF

# Program Changes Since 2009-11 Biennium

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## Reductions '09-'11

### Examples:

- Funded TANF caseload
- Created means test for relative caregivers
- Eliminated Cooperation Incentive
- Added “job quit” penalty
- Reduced Post-TANF
- Reduced JOBS budget

## Reductions '11-'13

### Examples:

- Funded TANF caseload
- Continued '09-'11 reductions
- Reduced JOBS budget by half
- Prioritized limited JOBS services
- Suspended Post-TANF
- Limited Pre-TANF
- Suspended enhanced portion of Pre-SSI/SSDI

## HB 2055 Continues:

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- 2009-11 and 2011-13 reductions
- Employability assessments and orientations for all families to determine the required level of JOBS participation and placement. Families must complete the assessment and orientation to receive assistance.
- Required JOBS participation for one-parent families with a child under 2
- Exclusion of enrollment or attendance at an educational institution as an allowable work activity
- Denial or termination of assistance when a caretaker relative is separated from employment without good cause (120 days)
- Eligibility income limit at 185% FPL for a child residing with a relative who is not the parent
- Denial of Employment Related Day Care for self-employed parents
- No reduced ERDC co-pay for the first month of employment



# JOBS Program Service Levels

Current number of clients with mandatory JOBS participation: **25,297**.  
Due to funding reductions, **JOBS serves 4,026 or 15.9% of clients**.

## 1 JOB READY

Adults who are **Job Ready** receive help with:

- Job Search
- Connection to WorkSource Oregon

Limited support services available

## 2 NEAR JOB READY

Adults who are **Near Job Ready** receive help with:

- Supported Work
- Work experience
- JOBS Plus – subsidized employment (6 months max per client)
- Job Search (in conjunction with above activities)
- Parents as Scholars (only for current participants; not enrolling new participants)
- Connection to services provided by other workforce programs and community partners (including vocational training, on-the-job training)

Limited support services available

## 3 LEAST JOB READY

Adults who are **Least Job Ready** receive help with:

- Help to connect with other DHS programs (e.g. DV, SSI app. Help, prevention services)
- Connection to other community resources as need arises (such as addictions and mental health services)

Limited support services available

## 4 TEEN PARENTS

**Teen Parents** receive help with:

- High School Education Completion
- GED

Limited support services available

# EMPLOYMENT

# JOBS Program Service Array Reductions

## JOBS Service Array 2009–2011

- Job Search
- Work Experience/Supported Work
- Subsidized employment (JOBS Plus)
- High School Diploma or GED (adults and teen parents)
- Adult Basic Education
- English as a Second Language
- Life Skills
- JOBS Skills Training
- Community Services Program
- Vocational Training
- On-the-Job Training
- Employment Retention
- Parents as Scholars
- Program Entry/Holistic Orientation
- Child Related activities
- Domestic Violence
- Drug and Alcohol
- Mental Health
- Learning Disability Assessments
- Short-Term Medical Issues
- Rehabilitative Services

### Support Service Payments according to need:

- Child Care
- Transportation
- Housing
- Other

## JOBS Service Array 2011–2013

- Job Search
- Work Experience/Supported Work
- Subsidized employment (JOBS Plus)
- High School Diploma or GED (teen parents)

### Support Service Payments:

- Child Care (family cap/mo; lifted March 2012)
- Transportation
- Other
- Limited payments based on type of activity

## JOBS Service Array 2013–2015

### Local performance-based contracts to include items such as:

- Job Search
- Work Experience/Supported Work
- Subsidized employment (JOBS Plus)
- High School Diploma or GED (teen parents)

### Support Service Payments:

- Child Care
- Transportation
- Other
- Limited payments based on type of activity

# TANF Workgroup Recommendations

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## Pre-TANF

- **Restore availability of payments for job seekers** who may not need an ongoing TANF grant but may need one-time help with paying rent or utilities. Consider early employment incentive payment.

## Ongoing TANF

- **Increase performance-based contracts** for job placement and other services
- **Streamline** the re-engagement process
- **Narrow focus of Family Support and Connections contracts** to families with a greater risk of Child Welfare involvement

## Employment and Retention

- **Create glide path off of TANF** to eliminate financial 'cliff' after finding a job
- **Specialize job development** to broaden reach and to align with sector strategies



# TANF Summary

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## TANF is designed to help:

- Break the cycle of poverty
- Help Oregonians transition to jobs
- Support the healthy development of young children
- Keep families stable



# Today's TANF Program

Pre-TANF	TANF	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening for family stability</li> <li>• Determination of eligibility for TANF and other programs</li> <li>• Payments up to 100% of TANF grant for basic needs</li> <li>• 45-day max. participation</li> </ul>	<b>Job Opportunity &amp; Basic Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job Search</li> <li>• Work Experience or Supported Work</li> <li>• JOBS Plus</li> <li>• Paid work</li> <li>• Self-employment</li> </ul>	
	<b>Other TANF Components</b>	
	<b>Pre-SSI/SSDI</b> Help applying for federal disability benefits	<b>Domestic Violence</b> Grant to escape or remain free from domestic violence
	<b>TANF Refugee</b> Serves families admitted to U.S. as refugees, asylees, victims of trafficking, etc.	<b>Family Support &amp; Connections</b> Contracted services to serve families at risk of child abuse or neglect