



Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network:
Webinar



“TANF Rule Implementing the DRA”

February 11, 2008
2:00pm-4:00pm (EDT)

Attendees please dial 1-800-892-9785
to access the audio portion of the session.

Welcome! The session will start momentarily.





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The screenshot shows a Microsoft Office Live Meeting window. The main content area displays a presentation slide with the following text:

HOW TO SUBMIT A QUESTION:

During the course of the presentation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions via the Question pane demonstrated and circled below.

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TANF Rule Implementing the DRA:

Major Changes from Interim Final
to Final Rule

Comments on IFR

- Interim final rule published June 29, 2006
- Nearly 500 comment submissions, with thousands of specific comments

DRA's Charge

- Define what constitutes work
- Create uniform methods for reporting work hours
- Set documentation standard to verify reported hours
- Determine when parents should be in the work participation rate calculation
- Establish and maintain work verification procedures and internal controls

Work Activities



General Principles Unchanged

- Consistent measurement across states
- Common sense definitions
- Maximum state flexibility within those limits

Job Search and Job Readiness Assistance

- Hourly equivalent for 6-week limit
 - A week = 20 hours for those with a 20-hour per week requirement
 - A week = 30 hours for those with a 30-hour per week requirement
 - Six weeks = 120 or 180 hours
 - States that get 12 weeks (over half do) can count double those hours
 - Calculated over preceding 12 months

Vocational Educational Training

- Expanded definition to include a bachelor's or advanced degree
- ESL and basic education do not have to be "of limited duration" as long as they are a necessary and regular part of the activity

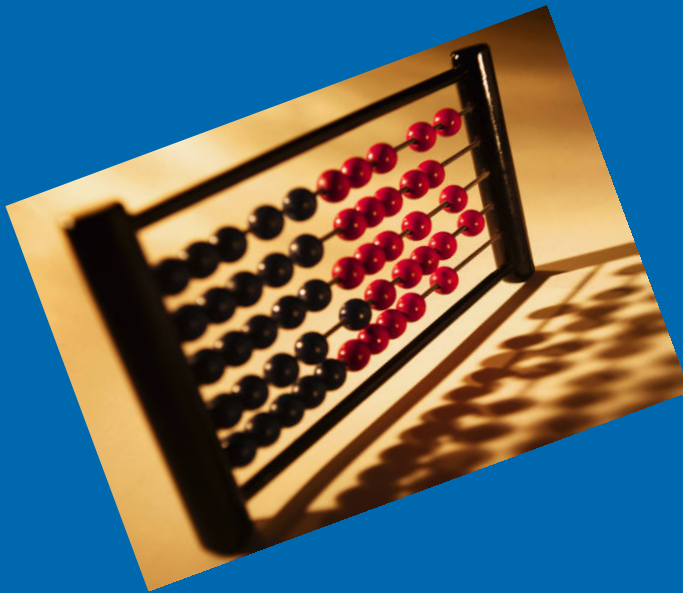
All Educational Activities

- Clarified that distance learning can count (must fit in the work activity definition and include supervision)
- Removed “good or satisfactory progress” requirement from high school and education directly related to employment

Supervision

- “Daily supervision” does not have to involve daily, in-person contact
- Daily supervision means that a responsible party has daily responsibility for oversight of an individual’s participation

Calculating Work Participation Rates



Work-Eligible Individual

- Excluded SSDI recipients on a case-by-case basis as we do SSI recipients
- Extended SSI-like exclusion to comparable program in the territories
- States can revise data as late as December 31 for prior fiscal year when SSI/SSDI applicant is approved

Work-Eligible Individual

- Family member no longer must be in school full time to exclude a parent caring for disabled family member
- Must only show that the parent is needed in the home to care for the disabled family member

Caseload Reduction Credits

- Specified the formula for calculating “excess MOE” in the rule
- The same as the “modified Delaware method” we explained in October webinar
- Revised form automates much of calculation

Excused Absences

- May count up to 10 holidays per year, can differ from state to state
- Hourly equivalent for 10 days of additional excused absences
 - 80 hours per individual in a 12-month period
 - No more than 16 hours per month

Homework

- Unsupervised homework can count, up to an hour for each class hour
- Total homework time counted cannot exceed the hours set by the educational program

Documentation

- Single documentation standard for all activities
 - Must be available in the case file to support all hours of participation for the month
 - No requirement for daily and bi-weekly documentation
 - Electronic records permitted

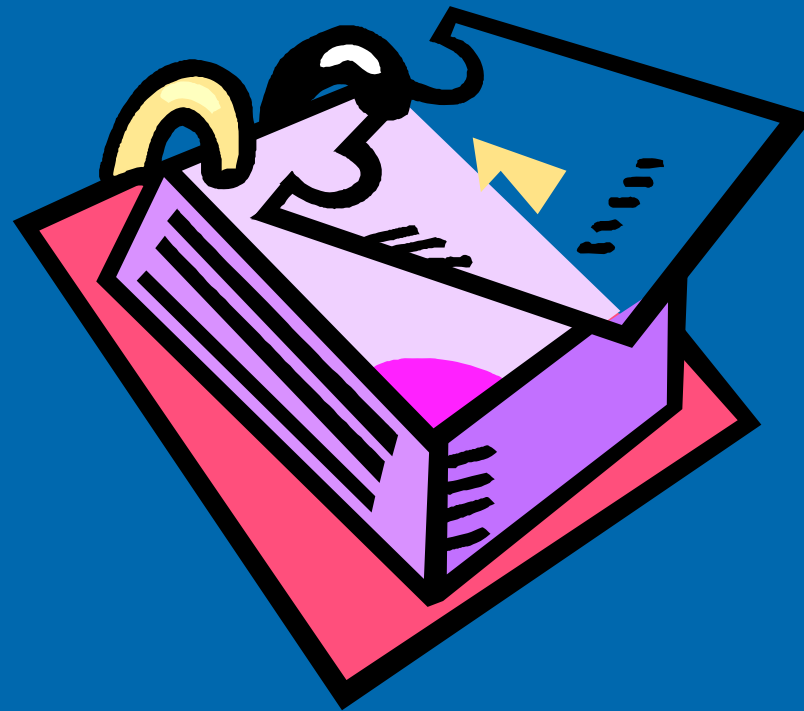
Spending MOE



Pro-Family Spending

- “Certain” pro-family expenditures means the activities allowed under the healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood grants
- Such as: marriage education (including pre-marital); responsible parenting; divorce reduction; economic stability; and responsible fatherhood

Effective Date



Effective Date

- The final rule takes effect October 1, 2008, the beginning of fiscal year 2009

TANF Rule Implementing the DRA:

Major Changes from Interim Final
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We will now take a quick break.

**Please stay logged on.
The question and answer session
will start momentarily.**





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The meeting interface also shows a 'Now Presenting' pane with 'Active Presenter: None' and a 'Resources' pane on the left. The top menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Share', 'Tools', 'Attendees', 'Audio', and 'Help'. The bottom status bar shows 'REC', '0', '0', '0', '0', 'Host:', and 'Connected'.



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Thank you for your participation.

A recording and materials from this Webinar will be available for download on the Welfare PEER TA website in the coming weeks at <http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov>

If you have questions about the content of this Webinar, please contact your Regional Office.

