

Tribal TANF-Funded Individual Development Accounts (IDAs): ACF Guidance

June 28th, 2012

Region X Tribal TANF Conference

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Tribal TANF IDAs

- Use of Tribal TANF Assistance Grant to match savings of participants
 - No private funds required
 - Cannot be used as match for Assets for Independence (AFI) IDA program
- Requires earned income by saver
 - Wages, stipend, etc.
- Program criteria determined by Tribal TANF
- Not necessarily either/or
 - Can administer both AFI and TANF-funded IDAs

Tribal TANF IDAs

- ACF TANF Questions and Answers
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/polquest/idas.htm>
 - Identifies opportunities for flexibility beyond:
 - Tribal TANF regulations
 - AFI-funded IDAs
- Two primary differences:
 - ☑ Asset purchases permitted
 - ☑ Eligibility criteria

Tribal TANF IDAs – Asset Purchase

- **Any purpose that is reasonably calculated to accomplish one of the statutory purposes of TANF**
 - **NOT** limited to education, business capitalization, and first home purchase
- Examples: vehicle, first/last month's rent, security deposit, textbooks, equipment for employment, or other assets needed to accomplish a TANF goal

Tribal TANF IDAs - Eligibility

- **“Needy” family as defined by Tribe**
 - Can be beyond TANF-eligible
 - Family must include a child living with a custodial parent or other adult relative

- **Youth or Adults**



Impact on Tribal TANF

- **Expanded Eligibility**
 - Incomes may be higher than TANF-eligible
 - Clients in transition off of TANF
- **Expanded Asset Purchase Options**
 - More relevant to Tribal TANF clients' needs, addressing barriers to self-sufficiency: transportation, access to housing, items needed for school or work, etc.

Tribal TANF IDAs

Other differences compared to AFI IDAs

- **Tribal TANF determines:**
 - Match rate
 - Match amount
 - Savings period
- **Administrative Cost Rate**
 - Negotiated Tribal TANF admin rate applies
- **Financial Education**
 - Not required, but strongly encouraged for success of clients

Tribal TANF Contact Information

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