
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
BENEFITS FOR FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN

WHERE TO APPLY?

You may apply for TANF benefits at a Benefit, Employment and Support Services Office. Call the Public Assistance Information Line.

1-855-643-1643



Department of Human Services
Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division

*Temporary Assistance
for
Needy Families*



DHS 1464 (10/14)

WHAT IS TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES?

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a federal and state funded program run by the Department of Human Services (DHS), Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD).

The program was first implemented in 1997 as a result of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

There are four TANF purposes:

PURPOSE ONE

“To provide assistance to needy families”

- ✚ Direct cash payment to the family
- ✚ Self-Sufficiency Program
- ✚ Income Disregard
- ✚ Financial Counseling

All programs are subject to established eligibility criteria that will be explained to you by your DHS worker.

PURPOSE TWO

“To end dependence of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage”

TANF applicants and recipient are referred to the Department’s First-to-Work program to prepare for self-sufficiency.

An assigned case manager will help you reach your employment goals with any of the following activities and supportive services:

- ✚ Job Search and Job Preparedness
- ✚ Subsidized/Unsubsidized Employment
- ✚ GED Prep
- ✚ Job Skills Training
- ✚ Vocational Education
- ✚ On-the Job Training
- ✚ Domestic Violence Services
- ✚ On-Going Counseling & Support

Supportive Services:

- ✚ Child Care Subsidies
- ✚ Transportation Assistance
- ✚ Work-Related Expenses

PURPOSE THREE

“To prevent and reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies”

DHS has partnered with a wide variety of community agencies to provide Hawai’i families with programs designed to help prevent teen and out-of-wedlock pregnancies. These programs include:

- ✚ After-School Programs
- ✚ Youth Abstinence and Pregnancy Prevention
- ✚ Positive Youth Development
- ✚ Youth Mentoring

PURPOSE FOUR

“To encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.”

Programs intended to teach the skills necessary to build strong families are made available by DHS and include:

- ✚ Fatherhood Services
- ✚ Family Strengthening
- ✚ Marriage/Couples Counseling
- ✚ Parenting Skills
- ✚ Home-Based Parenting & Family Counseling

