



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a federal block grant program that provides funding to states, Indian Tribes, and U.S. territories to create and administer assistance programs for needy families. Those entities can use the grants to provide cash assistance, work support, and other services to low-income families with children. States and U.S. territories must spend a certain amount of their own funds on related activities.

TANF also provides marriage and fatherhood grants to states. States that do not meet their federal work participation rates can be penalized through a reduction in their federal block grant.

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	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2027- 2031	2027- 2036
BUDGET INFORMATION													
Millions of dollars, by fiscal year													
Budget Authority	16,739	16,739	16,739	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	83,692	167,382
Estimated Outlays	16,968	16,800	16,737	16,736	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	16,738	83,749	167,439
Budget Authority for TANF Components													
State Family Assistance Grants	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	16,490	82,450	164,900
Grants to Indian Tribes	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	40	80
Grants to Territories	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	465	930
Marriage/Fatherhood Grants	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	750	1,500
Work Penalties	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-3	-3	-3	-3	-8	-22
Sequestration ^a	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	-5	-6

TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

Consistent with section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, CBO assumes that the program will continue to operate as it would immediately before its expiration on September 30, 2026.

- a. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, extended sequestration for mandatory spending through fiscal year 2032. The percentage reduction for that year is smaller than the reduction in place through 2031.