

## Rules for TANF 'Child-only' Cash Grants will Change November 1, 2011

Starting November 1, 2011, a new state law will change the rules for 'child-only' TANF cash grants. This change applies to cases where DSHS provides cash assistance only for the child or children in the home.

Right now we count only the child's income and resources to determine eligibility for a 'child-only' cash grant. On November 1, 2011, we will start counting the caregiver's income in addition to the child's income. We may also count the income of other household members.

The new law will apply to:

- relatives other than the child's parents, like a grandparent, sibling, aunt, or uncle; and
- caregivers who are not related to the child.

The new law will not apply to:

- parents who get a 'child-only' cash grant for their own child; or
- any caregivers who get a 'child-only' cash grant for a child who was placed in their care by DSHS or a tribal government. If this applies to you, be sure to let us know.

If the new law does apply to you, your eligibility for a 'child-only' cash grant will be affected as follows. In all cases, your child will continue to receive medical assistance:

1. **There will be no change** in your cash grant if your household's countable income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$3,090 per month for a family of three for 2011).
2. **You will get a lower cash grant** if your household's countable income is between 200% and 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (more than \$3,093 but less than \$4,635 for a family of three for 2011).
3. **You will not get a cash grant** if your household's countable income is above 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$4,635 per month for a family of three for 2011).

We need certain information from you to determine whether we can continue your 'child-only' cash grant after November 1<sup>st</sup>.

We may contact you for an interview in September or October to gather this information. At your interview, we will let you know whose income will count, how we will budget that income, and what proof we need. The sooner you provide the proof, the sooner we can tell you how this new law will affect you.

We will then send you a letter at the end of October to let you know what your November grant will be if you still qualify for cash assistance. We will end your cash assistance if you haven't provided the requested proof.

Please do not send us any information now but you may use the table below to organize the information for the interview. If you have questions about any of the information we are requesting, please call us at this toll-free number starting in September: 1-877-501-2233.

<b>Name (First, Middle, Last)</b> (all adults and dependent children in your household)	<b>Sex (M or F)</b>	<b>How is this person related to you?</b>	<b>Date of birth</b>	<b>Social Security Number or other way to verify income</b>	<b>Monthly Income (include verification)</b> (for example: wages, unemployment compensation, retirement benefits)
		<i>myself</i>			