

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE MANUAL	
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES 1311		SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 1300

1311.1 PURPOSE

The Transitional Support Services (TSS) initiative is an FIA program which stems from the Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission's 2018 Final Report. The initiative's purpose is to assist families with their transition from welfare to work as it lessens the effect of the benefit cliff immediately upon obtaining employment.

A household may be eligible to receive up to three consecutive months of TSS after its TCA case closes due to over-scale income, at least a portion of which must be earned income. The TSS grant amount is a cash benefit equal to the last monthly TCA payment received by the household (not including TCA underpayment corrections).

1311.2 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. To be eligible for TSS, a household must meet all of the following criteria:

1. The household must meet all technical requirements for TCA eligibility (see 0300).
2. The household must have received TCA for at least two consecutive months prior to the TCA case closing.
3. The household's TCA case must have closed due to over-scale or gross over-scale income. At least a portion of the household's income considered in the TCA eligibility determination must be earned income or self-employment income. Some of the income may be unearned income (e.g. child support income, unemployment, etc.).
4. Sanctioned adults are not eligible for TSS.
5. TCA disqualified individuals will not be considered as a part of the TSS household.
6. Both needy and non-needy caretaker relative cases are ineligible for TSS.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE MANUAL	
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES 1311		SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 1300

1311.3 TIME LIMIT

- A. An eligible household receives TSS for a maximum of three consecutive months.
- B. While the certification period for TSS cannot exceed three months, there is no lifetime limit on the number of times a customer can receive TSS benefits.
- C. Once TSS begins, a household will continue to receive the benefit for three consecutive months unless a member of the household dies. If the death of a member of the TSS household is confirmed, existing policy should be followed to correctly code the deceased person in CARES.
- D. Once the household's TSS ends, the household must do the following in order to be eligible for TSS again:
 - 1. Reapply for TCA;
 - 2. Be approved for TCA;
 - 3. Receive TCA for two consecutive months; and
 - 4. Become ineligible for TCA due to income, a portion of which much be earned income or self-employed income.
- E. TSS is not TCA. Therefore any months of TSS do not count toward the 60-month TCA time limit.
- F. Breaking the three-month TSS benefit period.

TSS benefits will only end before the three month period if:

- 1. The household is approved for TCA; or
- 2. A member of the household dies (If the death of a member of the TSS household is confirmed, existing policy should be followed to correctly code the deceased person in the eligibility system)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE MANUAL	
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES 1311		SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 1300

1311.4 PAYMENT LEVEL

The benefit level of the TSS shall be consistent with the last TCA amount received by the household (not including the correction of an underpayment or overpayment).

1311.5 IMPACT ON SNAP BENEFITS

Households who are eligible for TSS will also be eligible for transitional SNAP benefits. Transitional SNAP benefits will begin at the same time as the TSS. The policy for calculation of transitional SNAP benefits will not change. See SNAP Manual Section 420.12 for more information.

1311 REAPPLICATION FOR TCA

- A. A household is entitled to apply for TCA at any time. When a household applies for TCA, the case manager must run the clearance to ensure that no member of the household is currently receiving TSS. This can be done by viewing the Benefit History Listing (BENL) screen. TSS payments will have a hashtag sign (#) next to them to differentiate them from regular TCA payments. The LDSS can then determine if future TSS payments are due to the household based on the number of consecutive TSS payments previously received.

If a household member was active on another TCA assistance unit (AU) within the past four months it is important to check that AU for potential TSS benefits as well.

- B. If the entire household is currently receiving TSS, the household is ineligible for TCA.