



HELP FROM THE CASH ASSISTANCE (TANF) PROGRAM DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

If you are not currently getting TANF

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) provides cash assistance to families with children living with them and pregnant women

- Kids must be related by blood, adoption, marriage
- Parents and kids must be on grant together (unless one is on SSI or parent is ineligible)
- Relatives can get TANF for kids without being on the grant themselves (relatives' income doesn't count)

How much can I get? Monthly grant amounts:

1 person	\$205
2 persons	\$316
3 persons	\$403
4 persons	\$497

- Income limit is the same as the grant amounts. (A family member receiving SSI is not on the grant and their income does not count).
- All new applicants are given "good cause" and do not have to meet work requirements during the coronavirus crisis
- New applicants will be assumed to be cooperating with child support requirements while courts are closed, if they identify the non-custodial (absent) parent.

How do I apply for TANF?

Online at compass.state.pa.us (you can select a Spanish application)

Download and mail a paper application (these are available in several different languages)

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/Apply-for-Benefits.aspx>

If you are currently getting TANF

- You will be sent a renewal packet if you are due for renewal.
- If you submit your renewal, you will be contacted for a phone interview. You must do your renewal interview or you may be cut off.
- But, DHS is saying that if you do not submit your renewal packet your TANF will not be cut off.
- You will not be sanctioned if you cannot participate or fully participate in employment and training activities. DHS is recognizing a number of COVID-19 related factors as good cause to be excused from meeting work requirements. These factors include:
 - You are caring for children who are at home due to the closing of their school or day care;
 - Your employment and training program is closed; or
 - You have the COVID-19 virus or have been exposed to it.

Community Justice Project is a nonprofit legal aid program that provides legal assistance at no cost to income-eligible clients

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