



Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network:
Webinar



“TANF Rule Implementing the DRA”

February 11, 2008
2:00pm-4:00pm (EDT)

**Attendees please dial 1-800-892-9785
to access the audio portion of the session.**

Welcome! The session will start momentarily.





Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network: *Webinar*



The screenshot displays the Microsoft Office Live Meeting interface. The main content area shows a presentation slide with the following text:

HOW TO SUBMIT A QUESTION:

During the course of the presentation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions via the Question pane demonstrated and circled below.

To ask a question, just click in the thin question box, type your question, and click “Ask” to submit. The Moderator will address questions throughout the presentation.

At the bottom of the interface, the 'Questions and Answers (No Questions)' pane is visible. It contains a text input field with the placeholder text 'To ask the presenter(s) a question, type it here and click Ask.' and three buttons: 'Ask', 'Delete', and 'Question Manager'. A red circle highlights the 'Ask' button.

TANF Rule Implementing the DRA:

Major Changes from Interim Final
to Final Rule



Comments on IFR

- Interim final rule published June 29, 2006
- Nearly 500 comment submissions, with thousands of specific comments

DRA's Charge

- Define what constitutes work
- Create uniform methods for reporting work hours
- Set documentation standard to verify reported hours
- Determine when parents should be in the work participation rate calculation
- Establish and maintain work verification procedures and internal controls

Work Activities



General Principles Unchanged

- Consistent measurement across states
- Common sense definitions
- Maximum state flexibility within those limits



Job Search and Job Readiness Assistance

- Hourly equivalent for 6-week limit
 - A week = 20 hours for those with a 20-hour per week requirement
 - A week = 30 hours for those with a 30-hour per week requirement
 - Six weeks = 120 or 180 hours
 - States that get 12 weeks (over half do) can count double those hours
 - Calculated over preceding 12 months

Vocational Educational Training

- Expanded definition to include a bachelor's or advanced degree
- ESL and basic education do not have to be “of limited duration” as long as they are a necessary and regular part of the activity

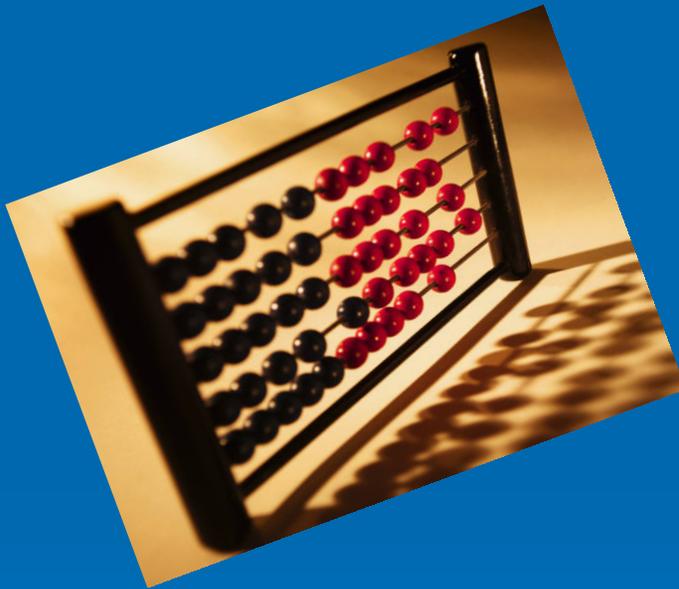
All Educational Activities

- Clarified that distance learning can count (must fit in the work activity definition and include supervision)
- Removed “good or satisfactory progress” requirement from high school and education directly related to employment

Supervision

- “Daily supervision” does not have to involve daily, in-person contact
- Daily supervision means that a responsible party has daily responsibility for oversight of an individual’s participation

Calculating Work Participation Rates



Work-Eligible Individual

- Excluded SSDI recipients on a case-by-case basis as we do SSI recipients
- Extended SSI-like exclusion to comparable program in the territories
- States can revise data as late as December 31 for prior fiscal year when SSI/SSDI applicant is approved

Work-Eligible Individual

- Family member no longer must be in school full time to exclude a parent caring for disabled family member
- Must only show that the parent is needed in the home to care for the disabled family member

Caseload Reduction Credits

- Specified the formula for calculating “excess MOE” in the rule
- The same as the “modified Delaware method” we explained in October webinar
- Revised form automates much of calculation

Excused Absences

- May count up to 10 holidays per year, can differ from state to state
- Hourly equivalent for 10 days of additional excused absences
 - 80 hours per individual in a 12-month period
 - No more than 16 hours per month

Homework

- Unsupervised homework can count, up to an hour for each class hour
- Total homework time counted cannot exceed the hours set by the educational program

Documentation

- Single documentation standard for all activities
 - Must be available in the case file to support all hours of participation for the month
 - No requirement for daily and bi-weekly documentation
 - Electronic records permitted

Spending MOE



Pro-Family Spending

- “Certain” pro-family expenditures means the activities allowed under the healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood grants
- Such as: marriage education (including pre-marital); responsible parenting; divorce reduction; economic stability; and responsible fatherhood

Effective Date



Effective Date

- The final rule takes effect October 1, 2008, the beginning of fiscal year 2009

TANF Rule Implementing the DRA:

Major Changes from Interim Final
to Final Rule





Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network:
Webinar



“TANF Rule Implementing the DRA”

We will now take a quick break.

**Please stay logged on.
The question and answer session
will start momentarily.**





Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network: *Webinar*



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Office Live Meeting window. The main content area displays a presentation slide with the following text:

HOW TO SUBMIT A QUESTION:

During the course of the presentation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions via the Question pane demonstrated and circled below.

To ask a question, just click in the thin question box, type your question, and click “Ask” to submit. The Moderator will address questions throughout the presentation.

Below the slide, the 'Questions and Answers (No Questions)' pane is visible. It contains a text input field with the placeholder text 'To ask the presenter(s) a question, type it here and click Ask.' and three buttons: 'Ask', 'Delete', and 'Question Manager'. A red circle highlights the 'Ask' button.

The interface also shows a 'Now Presenting' pane with 'Active Presenter: None' and a 'Resources' pane on the left. The top menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Share', 'Tools', 'Attendees', 'Audio', and 'Help'. The bottom status bar shows 'REC', '0', '0', '0', '0', 'Host:', and 'Connected'.



Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network:
Webinar



“TANF Rule Implementing the DRA”

Thank you for your participation.

A recording and materials from this Webinar will be available for download on the Welfare PEER TA website in the coming weeks at <http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov>

If you have questions about the content of this Webinar, please contact your Regional Office.

