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School Attendance

1200 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

1210 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

Children under age 18 may receive assistance if eligibility requirements are met.

- A child age 18 or over, not in school full-time, is ineligible.
- A child age 18 in school (high school, technical or vocational, includes GED program) full time and expected to graduate before or in the month of their 19th birthday is eligible for TANF through their graduation month.
- A child who will not graduate, or complete their GED, until after the month of their 19th birthday is ineligible the month following their 18th birthday.

Note: Eligibility ends effective the first of the month following the month of graduation or course completion. However, if high school courses are completed the month immediately preceding the month of graduation, the child remains eligible through the graduation month.

| Age | In School? | Graduation Month | Eligible? |
|----------------------|------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 18 | No | | No |
| 18, but less than 19 | Yes | Before or in same month as 19th birthday | Yes, until graduation |
| | | After 19th birthday | No, not after 18th birthday |
| Over 19 | | | No |

1211 MINOR PARENTS

Minor parents (unmarried and under age 18) whose children are at least 12 weeks of age are ineligible for TANF assistance unless it is verified they are enrolled in and attending full-time, an elementary or secondary school, vocational, or technical school equivalent to a secondary school, or an approved alternative educational program (includes GED programs) (see manual section B-900).

1220 ENSURING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) will encourage the head of household to take every reasonable action to ensure children age 7 through 11 (under age 12) are attending school.

School attendance for a child(ren) age 7 through 11 (under age 12) is evaluated when the Personal Responsibility Plan (PRP) Form #2538 is initiated and as needed when the PRP is amended. See manual section A-2100.

1221 HOW TO VERIFY

Verify attendance by:

- contacting the school using Form 2257-EG:
- requesting enrollment verification from the caregiver:
- viewing the child's report card; or
- by contacting a collateral contact such as: other relatives or neighbors or evaluating other information to verify attendance.

1230 DETERMINING ATTENDANCE

The school system determines half- or full-time attendance. A child is considered in attendance even if out of school because of vacation, temporary illness, or family emergency.

A child is considered attending school if they are in an approved home school setting. A household is required to show verification they are meeting the requirements established by the school district.

Handicapped children may attend fewer hours than other students. They may also receive instructions from a visiting teacher at home and still meet the school attendance requirements.

A child enrolled in a vocational adjustment program is considered in school full time.