



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Bill Lee
Governor of Tennessee
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Governor Lee:

On March 2, 2020, Tennessee submitted a four-year Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) combined state plan to the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services for approval. After careful review, a joint-agency email informing the state that the Departments of Labor and Education's portions of the combined plan were approved was sent on May 29, 2020. In accordance with section 103(c)(3)(B) of WIOA, this letter addresses the Department of Health and Human Services' program-specific requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

We have reviewed the TANF-specific portion of the combined state plan and have determined it to be complete. The combined state plan subsumes the individual TANF state plan, thus the state should not submit a separate TANF state plan. The Secretary of Health and Human Services makes a finding of plan completeness, but does not approve or disapprove a plan. Therefore, you should not construe this determination of completeness as an approval of any particular activity or as a determination that any particular expenditure is an allowable use of TANF/maintenance-of-effort (MOE) funds.

You have asked us to consider this submission to be a TANF plan renewal. Although the combined state plan subsumes the TANF state plan, the underlying TANF plan requirements in section 402 of the Social Security Act continue to apply. Thus, in order to remain eligible for TANF and continue to receive federal funds under the TANF program, Tennessee must ensure that its WIOA combined plan submission and amendments meet the time frames established in section 402(a) as well. This requires the state to submit a plan that contains all of the necessary elements listed in section 402 of the Social Security Act, including the certifications specified under sections 402(a)(2)-(7).

I am pleased to inform you that, as of July 1, 2020, Tennessee continues to qualify as an eligible state under the TANF program, in accordance with section 402 of the Social Security Act. Accordingly, Tennessee is entitled to an annual State Family Assistance Grant (SFAG) of \$190,891,768.

We value Tennessee's commitment to working together with stakeholders and the Departments to support the public workforce system. The Office of Family Assistance (OFA) stands ready to provide technical assistance to help Tennessee better coordinate and align with TANF as a combined plan partner to improve the quality and effectiveness of services to TANF clients in the workforce system.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please contact LaMonica Shelton, the TANF Program Manager for Region IV, at (404) 562-2938 or LaMonica.Shelton@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clarence H. Carter".

Clarence H. Carter
Director
Office of Family Assistance

cc: Lakecia Peterson-Smith, Program Director