

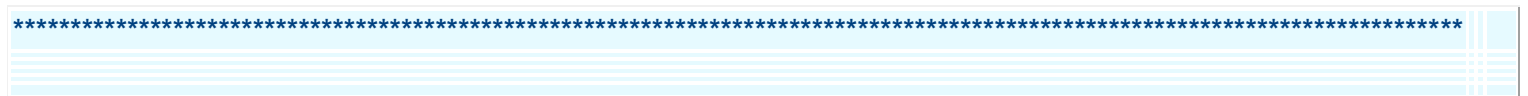
Department of Social and Health Services  
Olympia, Washington  
**EAZ Manual**

Revision # 939  
Category Time Limit Overview  
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**Summary**

Clarifying Information for WAC 388-484-0006 was updated to clarify that an application or ER form isn't required for a cash program change.

See below for edited text:



## Clarifying Information - **WAC 388-484-0006**

1. Start date for TANF time limits:

TANF time limits started in Washington State on August 1, 1997. Since we started time limits on this date, we do not count TANF benefits a client received in another state before August 1997 toward the client's 60-month limit, even if the other state started TANF time limits at an earlier date.

Effective November 1, 2011, state law applies the 60-month time limit to ineligible parents and counts months, back to August 1, 1997, when the ineligible parent receives TANF/SFA for his or her child.

ACES will track each adult recipient's and ineligible parent's 60-month limit, list each countable month as an adult recipient or ineligible parent month and indicate when the case is closed or extended under adult recipient or ineligible parent 60-month limit.

See [WorkFirst Handbook 3.7.1.2](#), What is the difference between the adult recipient and ineligible parent time limit, for more information.

- An *adult recipient* is an adult who is receiving assistance in a TANF/SFA assistance unit. The adult recipient may be the parent or another type of non-parental kinship caregiver such as a sibling, aunt, uncle or grandparent.
  - Any month an adult recipient receives TANF/SFA is counted as an *adult recipient month*.
  - We apply the *adult recipient time limit* when an adult recipient has at least 60 countable adult recipient months.
  - An *ineligible parent* is a non-recipient parent who is receiving a TANF/SFA grant for one of his or her children.
  - Any month an ineligible parent receives TANF/SFA for his or her child is counted as an *ineligible parent month*.
  - We apply the *ineligible parent time limit* when a current or former ineligible parent has at least 60 total countable months, once we combine their adult recipient and ineligible parent months.
2. Benefits that do not count toward the time limit:

We don't count a month toward a client's sixty-month limit if they did not get TANF/SFA or GA-S cash benefits unless she or he is an ineligible parent. Types of assistance that don't count toward the client's limit include:

- 1. Diversion Cash Assistance;
  - 2. WorkFirst support services;
  - 3. Medical assistance;
  - 4. Food assistance.
3. Extending TANF/SFA due to hardship (20% extension):

Federal state law allows us to extend up to 20% of the TANF caseload beyond sixty months due to hardship. We don't extend a client's benefits until they have reached their 60-month limit. We will implement the 20% extension policy when the first clients reach their time limit -**August 2002**. Fewer adults will qualify for the time limits extensions effective February 1, 2011 and ineligible parents qualify for extensions effective November 1, 2011.

4. Automated adjustments of TANF/SFA Months

ACES credits back repaid TANF/SFS months of total ineligibility and L&I reimbursements.

5. Time limit extension denials that result in a program change:  
When clients are receiving TANF/SFA and reach their 60 month time limit but have been approved for PWA/HEN by a disability specialist, process the change of programs without a new application or ER form. The WFPS will:
- a. Update the TLE denial and finalize the TANF/SFA AU.
  - b. Screen in the appropriate cash AU.
  - c. Manually change the Review End Date on the Eligibility Details screen when there is no other active AU by calculating the remaining months of the AU that just closed. Note: If the Review Date is less than 60 days, follow Application and Eligibility Reviews procedures.
  - d. Deny the first month (and ongoing month when applicable) with Reason Code 559, Client Already Received Assistance in Another AU for this Benefit Month, and issue benefits for the new cash AU beginning the 1st of the following month after the previous cash AU closes.
  - e. Document the correct certification period in the Narrative.