

Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

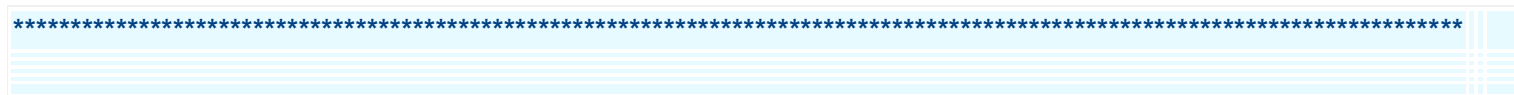
**EAZ Manual**

Revision # 945  
Category TANF/SFA Time Limits: Indian Country Disregard  
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**Summary**

Added the updated 2103 BIA report information and eligible Indian Country Disregard zip codes.

See below for edited text:



## Indian Country Disregard

Revised October 11, 2016

**WAC 388-484-0010** How does the five-year (sixty-month) time limit for TANF, SFA and GA-S cash assistance apply to adults living in Indian country?

- [Clarifying Information and Worker Responsibilities](#)
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## Clarifying Information - WAC 388-484-0010

1. Federal welfare reform law requires states to exempt adults who live in Indian country from the 60-month TANF time limit. This policy recognizes the ties American Indian and Alaskan Native families have to their land and culture and the difficulty in finding employment on their land. The policy also recognizes that these families should not have to leave their reservations or other areas of Indian Country in order to find employment once they have used 60-months of cash assistance.
2. This policy, however, does **not** exempt them from participation requirements. Qualifying recipients must still participate in WorkFirst activities even though a month of cash assistance does not count toward their 60-month clock.
3. All of the following conditions must be met for months **not** to count where cash assistance was received:
  1. The parent, co-parent, spouse or adult relative caretaker lives in "Indian Country." "Indian Country" includes all lands within the limits of any reservation, allotment (also known as "trust" land), and dependent Indian communities. Living near reservation areas, or in areas next to reservations, are **not** considered Indian Country, unless they are also allotted land or within a dependent Indian community. There are no dependent Indian communities in Washington at this time.
  2. The percentage of Indian adults in the area of Indian Country that are not employed is at least 50 percent or greater. (See ~~1997 Not Employed Rates, 1999 Not Employed Rates, and 2001 Not Employed Rates tables~~ and 2013 Not Employed Rates tables.)
4. Different mailing and residential addresses.

### EXAMPLE:

The adult lives in a qualifying area of Indian Country but has a mailing address outside of Indian Country. Can the adult still receive the Indian Country exemption?

Yes. The requirement only applies to where they are living. The exemption is not affected by the mailing address. ACES will read the residential address only.

### EXAMPLE:

The adult lives outside of the qualifying area of Indian Country but has a mailing address on the reservation. Can the adult still receive the Indian Country exemption?

No. The adult must live in a qualifying area of Indian Country in order to get the exemption.

- 5.
6. Automated tracking of adults living in Indian Country:

Effective September 2001, the process of not counting the months of cash assistance for adults living in qualifying Indian country will be automated.

7. When State and Tribe have different counts of months on assistance:

It is possible that a Tribal TANF program may have a different count of months on assistance for a family than DSHS. In this situation the State and the Tribal office are each obligated to accept the other's count. If a family has exhausted its months on assistance in a Tribal TANF program, and no extensions are available under that program, the family may still be eligible for a post-60 months extension under the State TANF program.

## Worker Responsibilities - WAC 388-484-0010

Ask clients if they are American Indians or Alaskan Natives. We do not require verification papers because each Tribe has different qualifications for membership or enrollment. If clients choose to report a change and now state that they are American Indians or Alaskan Natives, accept their declaration.

**NOTE:**

A client's Indian heritage is totally self-reported.

1. Enter the Race and Native American Tribe fields on the ACES [DEMI screen](#),
2. Effective September 2001, the process of not counting the months of cash assistance on the ACES [TICS screen](#) for adults living in qualifying Indian country will be automated.
3. This process of not counting months under the Indian country disregard includes adjusting the count of months from August 1, 1997 to the present.
4. For some clients, ACES will not be able to tell if the client was living in Indian country because the address was not standardized (could not be found), the client was homeless, used a post office box / rural route address and did not have a residential address, or was in the [Address Confidentiality Program](#). For these clients either:
  1. Ask the client whether they live in Indian country. Once the Indian country code is entered, the disregard of months will be automated for future months until the client moves.
  2. [Standardize the address](#). Once the address is standardized, the disregard of months will be automated for future months until the client moves.
  3. Ask the client whether they live in Indian country. Once the Indian country code is entered, the disregard of months will be automated for future months until the client moves.
  4. [Standardize the address](#). Once the address is standardized, the disregard of months will be automated for future months until the client moves.

**The ZIP Codes Which Contain Some Indian Country As Of October 1, 2016**

98002	98022	98023	98092	98108	98221	98223
98226	98232	98241	98244	98247	98248	98257
98264	98270	98271	98273	98284	98292	98331
98342	98346	98350	98357	98363	98370	98371
98381	98382	98391	98392	98404	98421	98422
98424	98443	98513	98526	98548	98552	98568
98579	98584	98587	98591	98613	98619	98620
98635	98672	98673	98812	98813	98831	98840
98841	98903	98920	98932	98933	98935	98948
98951	98952	99001	99013	99040	99109	99116
99119	99122	99124	99129	99138	99140	99155
99166	99180					

**NOTE:**

- These are the only zip codes which contain Indian Country.
- If the zip code is not on the list, then it does not contain Indian Country.
- Not all land in the listed zip codes is Indian Country. Many zip codes contain a mix of Indian and non-Indian Country.

**1997 Not Employed Rates – Automated in ACES – Provided For Information Only**

**"Not employed" rates for Washington Tribes 1997 BIA Labor Force Report Indian country disregard for TANF time limits**

Covers the period from August 1997 through May 2001

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Adults Not Employed</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Adults Not Employed</b>
Yakama	86.0	Quinault	57.5
Nooksack	81.2	Shoalwater	56.2
Nisqually	78.4	Port Gamble S'Klallam*	55.9
Quileute	78.0	Makah	54.4
Puyallup	78.0	Chehalis	52.2
Hoh	77.6	Stillaguamish	52.1
Lummi	74.1	Colville	49.1
Sauk-Suiattle	69.6	Suquamish	47.5
Skokomish	69.3	Tulalip	43.7
Upper Skagit	67.4	Jamestown S'Klallam	45.6
Kalispel	66.7	Squaxin Island	39.2
Lower Elwha*	66.1	Swinomish	34.5
Spokane	65.5	Muckleshoot	32.1

**Source:** 1997 Indian Service Population and Labor Force Estimates Report, and amended data provided by the tribes

\*Tribe operating Tribal TANF program. Tribe applies exemption for those months under Tribal TANF.

**1999 Not Employed Rates – Automated in ACES – Provided For Information Only**

**Rates for Washington Tribes 1999 BIA Labor Force Report Indian country disregard for TANF time limits**

Covers the period from June 2001 Through November 2005

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Adults Not Employed</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Adults Not Employed</b>
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Yakama	79.8	Muckleshoot	52.0
Quileute*	72.7	Port Gamble; Klallam*	51.6
Hoh	72.4	Stillaguamish	50.7
Puyallup	72.2	Tulalip	49.6
Nisqually	68.2	Quinault	48.8
Lummi	65.2	Makah	46.1
Spokane	64.9	Chehalis	45.9
Skokomish	64.8	Shoalwater	44.4
Nooksak	63.1	Suquamish	42.3
Lower Elwha*	58.7	Jamestown; Klallam	35.2
Kalispel	57.6	Squaxin Island	32.3
Sauk-Suiattle	57.1	Swinomish	26.8
Upper Skagit	57.0	Colville	21.2

**Source:** 1999 Indian Service Population and Labor Force Estimates Report.

\*Tribe operating Tribal TANF program. Tribe applies exemption for those months under Tribal TANF.

**2001 Not Employed Rates – Automated in ACES – Provided For Information Only**

**"Not employed" rates for Washington Tribes 2001 BIA Labor Force Report Indian country disregard for TANF time limits**

**COVERS THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 2005 UNTIL THE NEXT BIA REPORT IS AVAILABLE**

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Age 16 and Up Not Employed</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Age 16 and Up Not Employed</b>
Yakama	86.0	Upper Skagit	64.5
Quileute*	80.7	Samish	61.9
Nooksak*	79.5	Suquamish	61.8
Nisqually*(SPIPA)	79.0	Port Gamble S'Klallam*	57.9
Sauk-Suiattle	78.5	Quinault*	57.5
Spokane*	78.4	Tulalip*	55.8
Puyallup	77.9	Stillaguamish	52.1

Hoh	77.6	Lummi	50.2
Shoalwater	71.6	Jamestown-S'Klallam	47.7
Makah	71.5	Swinomish	41.6
Skokomish*(SPIPA)	67.7	Muckleshoot	41.0
Colville*	67.3	Squaxin Island*(SPIPA)	39.2
Kalispel	66.7	Chehalis	35.5
Lower Elwha*	66.6	Snoqualmie	32.6

**Source:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2001 Indian Population and Labor Force Report (except for Upper Skagit data reported separately):

\*Tribe operating a Tribal TANF program or participating in a Tribal TANF program consortium, such as the Tribal TANF program operated by the South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA). The Tribe will determine when to apply the Indian Country disregard while an adult is receiving benefits from their Tribal TANF program.

**~~2005 Not Employed Rates--Automated In Aces--Provided For Information Only~~**

**~~"Not employed" rates for Washington Tribes 2005 BIA Labor Force Report Indian country disregard for TANF time limits~~**

~~COVERS THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 2013 UNTIL THE NEXT BIA REPORT IS AVAILABLE~~

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Age 16 and Up Not Employed</b>	<b>Tribe</b>	<b>% Age 16 and Up Not Employed</b>
Puyallup (SPIPA)*	84.3	Snoqualmie	48.2
Nisqually (SPIPA)*	79.0	Jamestown-Klallam	47.7
Spokane*	78.4	Port Gamble-Klallam*	44.5
Hoh	74.3	Lummi*	43.7
Nooksack*	71.3	Muckleshoot	41.0
Shoalwater Bay	70.2	Squaxin Island (SPIPA)*	39.2
Skokomish (SPIPA)*	67.7	Kalispel	39.0
Upper Skagit*	67.1	Swinomish	35.4
Lower Elwha Klallam*	66.6	Tulalip*	29.2
Sauk-Suiattle	66.5	Makah	25.7
Suquamish	61.8	Chehalis	14.4
Quinault*	57.5	Colville*	0.0

Yakama	55.0	Cowlitz	0.0
Stillaguamish	52.1	Quileute*	0.0
Samish	52.1		
<p><b>Source:</b> Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2005 Indian Population and Labor Force Report. Some Tribes show zero unemployment due to not reporting any data under the categories of not available for work and not employed.  * Tribe operating a Tribal TANF program or participating in a Tribal TANF program consortium, such as the Tribal TANF program operated by the South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA). The Tribe will determine when to apply the Indian Country disregard while an adult is receiving benefits from their Tribal TANF program.</p>			

**2013 Not Employed Rates- Automated In Aces - Provided For Information Only**

"Not employed" rates for Washington Tribes 2013 BIA Labor Force Report Indian country disregard for TANF time limits			
COVERS THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 2016 UNTIL THE NEXT BIA REPORT IS AVAILABLE			
Tribe	% Age 16 and Up Not Employed	Tribe	% Age 16 and Up Not Employed
Puyallup*	61.2	Snoqualmie	45.9
Nisqually*	65.4	Jamestown 'Klallam	52.9
Spokane*	68.5	Port Gamble 'Klallam*	56.5
Hoh	<del>50.9</del> 59.2**	Lummi*	59.6
Nooksack*	57.1	Muckleshoot	60.1
Shoalwater Bay	70.6	Squaxin Island *	74.0
Skokomish *	64.7	Kalispel	80.9
Upper Skagit*	68.5	Swinomish	73.4
Lower Elwha Klallam*	61.1	Tulalip*	59.8
Sauk-Suiattle	<del>50.9</del> 60.5**	Makah	57.5
Suquamish	52.3	Chehalis	45.9
Quinalt*	62.9	Colville*	56.1
Yakama	62.7	Cowlitz	59.9
Stillaguamish	44.3	Quileute*	62.9
Samish	50.9		

**Source:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2013 Indian Population and Labor Force Report.

\* Tribe operating a Tribal TANF program or participating in a Tribal TANF program consortium, such as the Tribal TANF program operated by the South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA). The Tribe will determine when to apply the Indian Country disregard while an adult is receiving benefits from their Tribal TANF program.

\*\*Tribe unemployment rates determined by ESD, not the 2013 BIA employment rate report.