

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**Department of Children and Family Services
Economic Stability**

**TANF Fatherhood
(LAC 67:III.5571)**

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Economic Stability, has exercised the emergency provision of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) to amend LAC 67:III, Subpart 15 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Initiatives, Chapter 55 TANF Initiatives, Section 5571 Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program (Effective September 30, 2002). This emergency rule shall be effective February 1, 2022 and shall remain in effect for a period of 120 days.

Pursuant to Louisiana's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, amendment of Section 5571 is required to update the TANF goal and eligibility criteria. TANF goal 2 (to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage) is being removed and the income eligibility criteria related to goal 2 is being removed. TANF goal 4 meets the initiative's objectives and its associated eligibility criteria allows the most flexibility for providers to serve a wide variety of disadvantaged families.

The department considers emergency action necessary to facilitate the expenditure of TANF funds. The authorization to promulgate emergency rules to facilitate the expenditure of TANF funds is contained in Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

Title 67

SOCIAL SERVICES

Part III. Economic Stability

**Subpart 15. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Initiatives**

Chapter 55. TANF Initiatives

§5571. Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program (Effective September 30, 2002)

A. ~~The Office of Family Support~~ department shall enter into contracts to create programs that will assist ~~low-income~~ fathers with various skills ~~including~~ which may include but are not limited to employment, life, positive parenting, fatherhood, marriage and/or relationship building activities, and other skills in order to increase their ability to provide emotional and financial support for their children, ~~and to create a network of community and faith-based programs that will provide linkages to and for state entities, specifically Child Support Enforcement Services~~ and build a solid foundation for stronger relationships between mothers and fathers.

B. These services meet ~~TANF goal 2, to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage,~~ and TANF goal 4, to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families by eliminating emotional, social, financial, and legal barriers that hinder a father's ability to be fully engaged in his children's lives.

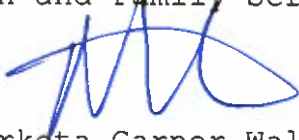
C. Eligibility for services is limited to fathers of minor children, ~~who have earned income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.~~ The mothers of their children, as well as their children, are eligible to participate in program activities.

D. Services are considered non-assistance by the agency.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.; R.S. 46:231 and R.S. 36:474; Act 13, 2002 Reg. Session, Act 18, 2007 Reg. Session.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, LR 29:191 (February 2003),

amended LR 34:697 (April 2008), amended by the Department of
Children and Family Services, Economic Stability Section, LR 48:



2/1/22

Marketa Garner Walters
Secretary