



Expanding Direct Payments and Access to TANF

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Below is a chart of state legislation related to expanding direct payments and access to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families assistance.

State	Legislation
Arizona	2021 H 2252 (Pending): Relates to Temporary Cash Assistance for Needy Families; relates to increasing cash assistance amount.
Indiana	<p>2021 HB 1009 (Pending): Relates to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; exempts from being counted as income in determining eligibility for the TANF program certain money earned by specified individuals pursuing a postsecondary degree, workforce certificate, pre-apprenticeship, or apprenticeship; sets the income eligibility requirements for the TANF program at phased-in specified percentages of the federal income poverty level; requires the Division of Family Resources to amend the state TANF plan.</p> <p>2019 S 233 (Enacted): Relates to TANF eligibility; sets the income eligibility requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program at phased in specified percentages of the federal income poverty level; requires the division of family resources to amend the state TANF plan or take any other action necessary to implement the income requirements; increases certain payment amounts under the TANF program; requires the payments to be annually adjusted using the Social Security cost of living adjustment rate.</p> <p>2019 SB 440 (Failed-adjourned): Would have set the income eligibility requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program at phased in specified percentages of the federal income poverty level; requires the Division of Family Resources to amend the state TANF plan or take any other action necessary to implement the income requirements; would have increased certain payment amounts under the TANF program and would have required the payments to be annually adjusted using the Social Security cost of living adjustment rate.</p> <p>2020 SB 111 (Failed-adjourned): Would have set the income eligibility requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program at phased-in specified percentages of the federal income poverty level; would have required the division of family resources to amend the state TANF plan or take any other action necessary to implement the income requirements; would have increased certain payment amounts under the TANF program beginning a specified date.</p>
Maine	2019 HP 1259/ 2019 LD 1772 (Enacted): Increases the income amounts that are disregarded when calculating benefits from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, program, for recipients who have earnings from employment; replaces for a limited period food assistance lost as a result of increased earnings from employment and the increased income amounts that are disregarded.
Mississippi	<p>2021 HB 976 (Failed): Would have increased the monthly benefit amount under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.</p> <p>2021 SB 2759 (Enacted): Increased the monthly benefit amount for temporary assistance for needy families.</p>

Compiled by the National Conference of State Legislatures, April 2021

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	2020 HB 1324 (Failed): Would have increased the maximum monthly amount of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits.
Nebraska	2021 LB 108 (Pending): Beginning on October 1, 2021, increases the gross income eligibility limit for TANF to one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal Office of Management and Budget income poverty guidelines as allowed under federal law and as such law and regulation existed on January 1, 2021, but shall not increase the net income eligibility limit.
New Jersey	2020 S 2178 (Enacted): Repeals the family cap in the Work First State program.
New York	2019 S 5402 (Enacted): Amends the Social Services Law; exempts certain funds in state ABLÉ savings accounts from the calculation of household benefits under public assistance programs.
North Carolina	2019 HB 1188 (Failed - adjourned): Would have appropriated funds from the coronavirus relief fund under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide additional assistance to eligible recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits in response to the coronavirus pandemic.
Oklahoma	2021 S 394 (Pending): Relates to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program; relates to exclusion of automobile from determination of applicant's resources; increases amount of excluded equity allowance.
Tennessee	2021 S 0715/H 807 (Pending): Requires the department of human services to promulgate rules to phase out SNAP and TANF asset limits over a four-year period.
Virginia	<p>2020 H 566 (Enacted): Relates to eligibility for food stamps and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; relates to drug related felonies; provides that a person who is otherwise eligible to receive food stamp benefits shall not be denied such assistance solely because he has been convicted of a drug related felony.</p> <p>2020 H 690 (Enacted): Relates to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; relates to family caps; repeals the prohibition on increasing the amount of TANF that a family receives upon the birth of a child during the period of TANF eligibility, or during the period in which the family or adult recipient is ineligible for TANF benefits, pursuant to a penalty imposed by the Commissioner of Social Services for failure to comply with benefit eligibility.</p> <p>2020 S 124 (Enacted): Relates to eligibility for food stamps and TANF; relates to drug related felonies; provides that a person who is otherwise eligible to receive food stamp and TANF benefits shall not be denied such assistance solely because he or she has been convicted of a drug related felony.</p>