

| Connecticut’s Cash Assistance (TANF) policy: Temporary Family Assistance Program   |   |   |
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| HOW MUCH CASH ASSISTANCE CAN A FAMILY OF THREE RECEIVE?  |   |   |
| Flexibility  | Current policy  | Potential improvement   |
| <p><b>Maximum benefit allowed</b></p> <p>What is the maximum monthly amount a family of three could receive in cash assistance?</p>  | <p>\$833/month, or 39% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).</p>  | <p><b>Consider increasing the maximum benefit level.</b></p> <p><b>Example: Minnesota’s maximum benefit for a family of three is \$1,370/month, or 62% FPL.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Recurring benefit increases</b></p> <p>Has the state mandated increases to these amounts, as the cost of living rises?</p>     | <p>Yes. The standard of need defining eligibility and payment is mandated to be 55% of the FPL, with annual increases tied to cost of living.</p> | <p>N/A</p>  |
| WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR CASH ASSISTANCE?   |   |   |
| Flexibility  | Current policy  | Potential improvement   |
| <p><b>Maximum income</b></p> <p>How much can a family of three earn and still be considered eligible to receive cash assistance?</p> | <p>New applicants must have and income of less than \$1,183/month, or 55% FPL.</p>  | <p>N/A</p>  |
| <p><b>Asset limit</b></p> <p>How much can a family maintain in savings while still being eligible for cash assistance?</p>           | <p>Families can retain up to \$6,000.</p>   | <p><b>Consider either increasing or removing the asset limit to promote economic mobility by enabling families to save.</b></p> <p><b>Examples: Delaware and Maine allow families to retain \$10,000, and Massachusetts has eliminated its asset limit.</b></p> |

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| <p><b>Eligibility during pregnancy for parents without children</b></p> <p>Are pregnant people with no children in the household eligible for cash assistance?</p> | <p>Yes. Connecticut provides cash assistance to pregnant parents without children at any point during the pregnancy.</p>   | <p>N/A</p>   |
| <p><b>ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS</b></p>  |  |  |
| <p><b>Flexibility</b></p>  | <p><b>Current policy</b></p>   | <p><b>Potential improvement</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Time limit</b></p> <p>Does the state allow families to receive cash assistance up to the federal limit of 60 months?</p>                                     | <p>No. Connecticut maintains a 36-month limit, allowing families to petition for two six-month extensions.</p>   | <p><b>Consider maintaining the lifetime limit of 60 months to support families during reversals such as job loss (e.g., Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire).</b></p>                           |
| <p><b>Lifting full-family sanctions</b></p> <p>Are other family members able to continue receiving cash benefits if an adult does not meet work requirements?</p>  | <p>Yes. In cases of noncompliance with work requirements, benefits can be reduced by no more than 25%.</p>   | <p>N/A</p>   |
| <p><b>Lifting drug felony bans</b></p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for cash assistance?</p>   | <p>Connecticut has modified its ban to extend eligibility to those convicted of drug-related felonies who are compliant with the terms of their sentence, probation, and possible treatment program or testing requirements.</p> | <p><b>Consider fully eliminating the ban (e.g., Delaware, Maine).</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Lifting the family cap for a new birth</b></p> <p>Can families receive additional cash assistance if they have another child while receiving assistance?</p> | <p>A partial family cap applies in Connecticut. Additional benefits for newborn children are reduced by approximately</p>  | <p><b>Discontinue the family cap. It is not a federal requirement and does not exist in most states. Cash support during early childhood is important for reducing parental stress and</b></p> |

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|  | one-half in some circumstances. | <b>building better developmental outcomes in children.</b> |
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