

New Hampshire’s Cash Assistance (TANF) policy: Financial Assistance for Needy Families		
HOW MUCH CASH ASSISTANCE CAN A FAMILY OF THREE RECEIVE?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Maximum benefit allowed</p> <p>What is the maximum monthly amount a family of three could receive in cash assistance?</p>	<p>\$1,291/month, or about 60% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) in 2024.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Recurring benefit increases</p> <p>Has the state mandated increases to these amounts, as the cost of living rises?</p>	<p>Yes. Legislation in 2017 mandated that the maximum monthly cash benefit should be equal to 60% FPL as determined by the US Department of Health and Human Services, requiring annual updates in levels of assistance.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR CASH ASSISTANCE?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Maximum income</p> <p>How much can a family of three earn and still be considered eligible to receive cash assistance?</p>	<p>There is a gross income limit of \$1,291/month (60% FPL).</p>	<p>Consider increasing the income limit.</p> <p>Example: Minnesota extends eligibility to families earning as much as \$1,507/month in net income, after some deductions.</p>
<p>Asset limit</p> <p>How much can a family maintain in savings while still being eligible for cash assistance?</p>	<p>Families can retain assets up to \$1,000 at the time of their application. Those already receiving assistance may retain up to \$5,000.</p>	<p>Consider eliminating the asset limit to enable families to maintain savings (e.g., Massachusetts, Maryland).</p>

<p>Eligibility during pregnancy for parents without children</p> <p>Are pregnant people with no children in the household eligible for cash assistance?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Consider providing eligibility to low-income pregnant people with no other children in order to support basic needs required for maternal health and children’s early development.</p> <p>Examples: Maine provides cash assistance to pregnant individuals with no other children beginning in the sixth month of pregnancy.</p> <p>Connecticut provides assistance from the first month of pregnancy.</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL RULES AND RESTRICTIONS</p>		
<p>Flexibility</p>	<p>Current policy</p>	<p>Potential improvement</p>
<p>Time limit</p> <p>Does the state allow families to receive cash assistance up to the federal limit of 60 months?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Lifting full-family sanctions</p> <p>Are other family members able to continue receiving cash benefits if an adult does not meet work requirements?</p>	<p>No. FANF assistance is terminated for the entire household when a recipient accrues three months of sanctions within a twelve-month period.</p>	<p>Consider only reducing the benefit amount in all cases, so that children continue to receive assistance (e.g., Maine).</p>
<p>Lifting drug felony bans</p> <p>Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for cash assistance?</p>	<p>Yes. New Hampshire has eliminated a ban on eligibility for those with drug-related convictions.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Lifting the family cap for a new birth</p> <p>Can families receive additional cash assistance if they have another child while receiving assistance?</p>	<p>Yes. New Hampshire never enacted a family cap.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Two-parent family eligibility</p> <p>Does New Hampshire provide cash assistance to families with two parents?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Consider changing this policy to provide cash assistance to low-income children with two parents, as 47 other states have.</p>