

OVERVIEW

POWER (TANF)	Wyoming	U.S. Average or Total
Annual (federal-only) block grant amount	\$18,428,651	\$16,488,600,000 (total)
% of TANF block grants spent on cash assistance, 2024	20.3%	21.8%
% families who participated in TANF per 100 families with children living in poverty, 2022-23	8.0%	20%
Total # families receiving TANF in 2025	462	848,631 (total)
% of cases designated "Child-Only" in 2025	43.9%	39.3%
"Unobligated balance" (or stockpiled amounts, which must be used for cash assistance or admin)		
TANF Funds "unobligated balance," as of 2024	\$22,375,962	\$7,986,470,560 (total)
"Unobligated balance" as share of total block grant amount	121.40%	49.5%
Change (+ or -) in "unobligated balance" from 2023	-\$872,970	+\$241,306,628

WYOMING'S CASH ASSISTANCE (TANF) POLICY

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>From \$620 to \$902/month, depending on whether shelter-qualified (or from 29% to 42% of the Federal Poverty Level).</p>	<p>Increase the maximum benefit level to provide more support to families with children during challenging periods.</p> <p>Examples: California and Minnesota provide higher maximum benefits.</p>
<p>Recurring benefit increases</p> <p>Has Wyoming mandated increases to these amounts, as costs of living increase?</p>	<p>Yes, increases are tied to a state-specific cost-of-living index.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Deductions for calculation of benefit amount</p> <p>Can parents deduct some earnings or expenses from their income when calculating the benefit amount?</p>	<p>Parents can deduct \$1,200 if they are a married couple with at least one child. Other families can deduct \$600.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
HOW ELSE DOES WYOMING DETERMINE THE GENEROSITY OF CASH ASSISTANCE?		
Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Time limit</p> <p>Does Wyoming allow families to receive cash assistance up to the federal limit of 60 months?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Transitional cash benefits for families who become ineligible after receiving cash assistance</p> <p>Will parents and caregivers who are newly ineligible for cash assistance receive additional cash support for a limited period?</p>	<p>Families who are ineligible for cash assistance after new employment or increased earnings can receive 50% of their previous month's assistance for up to six consecutive months.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Providing one-time cash payments to families with specific financial needs</p> <p>Does Wyoming provide a formal diversion program to support families with specific short-term needs?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>Consider providing a generous one-time “diversion” payment that can help families with critical expenses (such as car repairs), enabling caregivers to remain employed and deferring the need for cash assistance.</p> <p>Examples: North Dakota and South Dakota both provide diversion payments.</p>

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Eligibility for monthly assistance less than six months after a diversion payment</p> <p>Can families who receive diversionary payments apply for monthly assistance within six months afterward?</p>	No, since the state has no diversion program.	N/A
<p>Providing assistance with housing</p> <p>Does the state provide housing vouchers with TANF funds?</p>	No.	<p>Providing housing vouchers alongside cash assistance may reduce parental stress and improve children’s developmental outcomes.</p> <p>Example: North Dakota provides housing vouchers.</p>
<p>Providing assistance with diaper purchases</p> <p>Does Wyoming provide assistance to families with diaper expenses using TANF funds?</p>	No.	<p>Providing assistance with diaper costs can help to stabilize the financial well-being of families with very young children.</p> <p>Example: Washington’s diaper subsidy program for TANF recipients increases the cash benefit by \$100 per month for households with a child under the age of 3.</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 for cash assistance eligibility?</p>	The limit monthly earned income ranges from \$1,220/month to \$2,102, depends on whether a family receives housing assistance and the number of parents in the family.	<p>Consider increasing the income threshold to provide more families with assistance.</p> <p>Example: North Dakota provides gross income eligibility to families earning as much as \$2,690/month.</p>

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Deductions for assessment of benefit eligibility</p> <p>Can families deduct a portion of earnings or some expenses from their income to meet income eligibility requirements?</p>	No.	<p>Consider increasing disregards in order to provide support for more families.</p> <p>Example: In North Dakota, parents may deduct 27% of income or \$180 of monthly earnings, whichever is greater.</p>
<p>Asset limit</p> <p>How much can a family maintain in savings while still being eligible for cash assistance?</p>	The family may maintain up to \$5,000 in cash or savings accounts and remain eligible.	<p>Increasing or removing the asset limit would enable families to maintain savings and improve their future economic security.</p> <p>Examples: Nevada has increased the asset limit for TANF to \$10,000. Ohio has eliminated cash asset limits for TANF cash assistance.</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>	No.	<p>Providing cash assistance during pregnancy is critical for early development outcomes and in reducing parental stress.</p> <p>Example: North Dakota provides cash assistance to pregnant people in any trimester.</p>
<p>Provision of federal TANF cash assistance to immigrant families who are lawful permanent residents (LPRs) *after* five years' residence in US</p> <p>Can parents who hold green cards access cash assistance in Wyoming once they have been in the country <i>for five years or longer</i>?</p>	Yes.	N/A

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Use of state funds to provide cash assistance to immigrant families who are lawful permanent residents (LPRs) with less than five years' residence in US</p> <p>Can parents who hold green cards access cash assistance in Wyoming if they have been in the country for <i>less than five years</i>?</p>	Yes.	N/A

HOW DOES WYOMING TREAT CHILD SUPPORT OWED TO A FAMILY APPLYING FOR AND RECEIVING CASH ASSISTANCE?

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Child support pass-through</p> <p>Does Wyoming “pass through” a portion of the payments received by the state in child support for the family?</p>	Yes.	N/A

WHAT ARE WYOMING’S WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR CASH ASSISTANCE?

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Provision of cash assistance to out-of-work parents before they search for a job</p> <p>Does Wyoming provide eligibility to parents without a search for employment?</p>	Yes.	N/A

<p>Counting educational activities as “core” work requirements</p> <p>Does Wyoming provide credit for all educational activities, including college, as “core” work activities for cash assistance?</p>	No.	<p>Providing exemption from work requirements for those engaged in educational activities supports long-term economic mobility.</p> <p>Example: Iowa and Kentucky allow some forms of postsecondary education to serve as an exemption.</p>
--	-----	---

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<p>Exemption for caregivers of infants</p> <p>Are parents or caregivers caring for a child under twelve months of age exempt from work requirements?</p>	<p>No, exemptions apply for single parents caring only for children less than three months old.</p>	<p>Exempting a parent of a child under twelve months from work requirements supports child development and reduces parental stress.</p> <p>Example: Mississippi provides exemptions for parents of children up to twelve months; West Virginia provides them for children up to thirteen months.</p>
<p>Other exemptions from work requirements</p> <p>What are other conditions for exemptions from work requirements?</p>	<p>Exemptions apply for caregivers over 65 years of age and minors.</p>	<p>Consider providing exemptions from work requirements for other conditions, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of an ill or disabled family member • Domestic violence • Drug or alcohol treatment • Lack of childcare for children under six

WHICH RESTRICTIONS ON CASH ASSISTANCE HAS WYOMING EASED?

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
<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, Wyoming will enact a full-family sanction.</p>	<p>By refraining from full-family sanctions, states can continue to provide cash assistance to children and other vulnerable family members.</p> <p>Example: Arkansas will only reduce the benefit amount in the case of noncompliance with work requirements.</p>

Wyoming

TANF State Profile Summary 2025/26

Flexibility	Current policy	Potential improvement
Lifting drug felony bans Are persons convicted of drug-related felonies eligible for cash assistance?	Yes.	N/A
Refraining from drug testing applicants or recipients Does Wyoming refrain from enforcing drug testing of caregivers who are either receiving or applying for cash assistance?	Yes.	N/A
Lifting the family cap for a new birth Can families receive additional cash assistance if they have another child while receiving assistance?	Yes.	N/A

NOTES ON SOURCES:

TANF state profiles were compiled by extensive review of administrative guidelines including those published in state TANF manuals. Additionally, NCCP researchers referred to enacted state legislative resources.

NCCP gratefully acknowledges the of states' TANF-to-poverty ratios as developed and provided by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities:

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2025, April 11). *AFDC and TANF caseload and poverty data*. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/income-security/afdc-and-tanf-caseload-and-poverty-data>

We have drawn on the publication of federal data on states' TANF block grant spending, including financial data, spending allocations, and caseload information:

Office of Family Assistance. (2026, February 10). *TANF and MOE spending and transfers by activity, FY 2024*. Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://acf.gov/ofa/data/tanf-and-moe-spending-and-transfers-activity-fy-2024>

Office of Family Assistance. (2025). *TANF caseload data 2025*. Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://acf.gov/ofa/data/tanf-caseload-data-2025>