

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Transmittal Sheet



Sharon Priest
Secretary of State
State Capitol Rm. 01
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094

For Office Use Only: Effective Date 6/12/98 Code Number 016.20.98 -- 014

Name of Agency Division of County Operations

Department of Human Services

Contact Person Roy Kindle, Assistant Director, OPPD Phone 682-8251

Statutory Authority for Promulgating Rules Arkansas Act 1058 of 1997, the Arkansas Personal Responsibility and Public Assistance Reform Act

	Date
Intended Effective Date	Legal Notice Published <u>5-2-98</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency	Final Date for Public Comment <u>5-31-98</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 Days After Filing	Filed With Legislative Council <u>4-30-98</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Reviewed by Legislative Council _____
	Adopted by State Agency <u>6-12-98</u>

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

I Hereby Certify That The Attached Rules Were Adopted
In Compliance with Act 434 of 1967 As Amended.

[Signature]

Signature

682-8375

Phone Number

Director

Title

4/28/98

Date

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98 JUN -2 PM 3:24
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS

6.5 Extended Support Services

For those families who become ineligible for continued TEA benefits due to employment, or who choose to no longer receive cash assistance due to employment, extended support services will be available as provided for by federal and state law. Such services will include one year of extended Medicaid coverage for those who meet the eligibility criteria under federal law for such coverage and one year of extended child care assistance at no cost with an additional two years of child care assistance based on a sliding fee scale.

6.5.1 Extended Support Services - Employment Bonus

For those families who become ineligible for continued TEA cash assistance benefits due to employment, or who choose to no longer receive cash assistance due to employment, an Employment Bonus cash payment will be made to such family provided a bonus payment has not already been made to the family in the preceding twelve (12) months. The purpose of such payment is to help the employed adult meet employment related expenses, such as transportation, clothing, and other miscellaneous work-related expenses, until he or she has received a full month's earnings. It is expected that this one-time bonus payment will help enable the adult to maintain his or her employment.

The Employment Bonus will not count toward the adult's maximum twenty-four month limit.

6.5.2 Extended Support Services - Transportation

For those families who become ineligible for continued TEA cash assistance benefits due to employment, or who choose to no longer receive cash assistance due to employment, two months of Extended Support Transportation assistance will be made to the family. These payments will assist the family in meeting transportation costs in the first two months following termination of TEA cash assistance.

The Extended Support Transportation payments will not count toward the adult's maximum twenty-four month limit. This assistance will be funded by all state monies.

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EXTENDED SUPPORT SERVICES - TRANSPORTATION

TEA cases which close due to employment (by agency determination or at client request) will automatically be eligible to receive two months of Extended Support Transportation assistance. These payments will assist the family in meeting transportation costs in the first two months following termination of TEA cash assistance.

The Extended Support Transportation benefit will be in the amount of \$200 each month. Because the ESS-Transportation assistance is funded by all State monies, it will not count toward the 24 month time limit.

When a case is closed due to earnings, the worker will use the close codes specific to allowing this Extended Support Service. Verification of earnings is not required. (See examples below). The system will automatically issue to the client's EBT account the Extended Transportation benefit beginning with the month following the month of case closure. There is no limit to the number of times an individual may receive Extended Support Service Transportation assistance.

Please refer to the DCO-Users Manual for specific codes and keying procedures.

The following are examples of situations in which ESS-Transportation assistance will be authorized.

Example 1: Ms. Manning reported that she found a job and requested her TEA case be closed. The client's statement that she is employed may be accepted without verification.

Example 2: An anonymous telephone call is received in the county office reporting that Ms. Smith is working. A 10-day notice is sent to Ms. Smith requesting that she contact the county office concerning the report. Ms. Smith calls the county office and states that she is working and no longer wants TEA benefits. Ms. Smith's case will be closed and Extended Support Transportation assistance will be authorized.

Example 3: Ms. Davis reported that she was employed. Based on her earnings, she was no longer eligible for TEA cash assistance. The TEA case was closed and ESS Transportation benefits were authorized.

In the following example, ESS-Transportation assistance will not be authorized.

Example 4: A telephone call was received in the county office reporting that Mr. Jones was employed. A 10-day notice was sent to Mr. Jones to contact the county office concerning the report. Mr. Jones did not contact the county office. The TEA case was closed for failure to respond to the notice. Even though this was a report of employment, ESS-Transportation assistance will not be authorized because Mr. Jones did not confirm that he was employed.

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SHARON A. S1
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS
BY _____

DEPARTMENT of Human Services

DIVISION of County Operations

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT Roy Kindle, Assistant Director

Office of Program Planning & Development

TELEPHONE: 682-8251

FAX NO. 682-1597

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

To comply with Act 884 of 1995, please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file with the questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE - TEA Extended Support Services - Transportation Assistance

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact? Yes ☒ No ☐

This proposed rule will provide an additional two months of transportation assistance to families who leave the regular Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) program due to employment of the adult.

2. If you believe that the development of a financial impact statement is so speculative as to be cost prohibited, please explain.
3. If the purpose of this rule or regulation is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please give the incremental cost for implementing the regulation.

1997-1998 Fiscal Year

1998-1999 Fiscal Year

General Revenue
Federal Funds
Cash Funds
Special Revenue
Other
Total

General Revenue
Federal Funds
Cash Funds
Special Revenue
Other
Total

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This proposed rule is not required by a federal rule or regulation.

4. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any party subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation?

1997-98 Fiscal Year

None

1998-99 Fiscal Year

None

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to the agency to implement this regulation?

The total estimated fiscal year cost for this rule is \$2,160,000. The intent is for the total amount to be funded with all state revenue.

NOTICE
OF

Automating

Pursuant to Arkansas Act 1058 of 1997 (the Arkansas Personal Responsibility and Public Assistance Reform Act) and Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program), the Director, Division of County Operations issues a proposed amendment to the Title IV-A state plan and policy for the Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) program. The amendment is to provide two months of Extended Support Service Transportation to TEA families whose regular TEA cash assistance case closes due to employment. These payments will assist the family in meeting transportation costs in the first two months following termination of TEA cash assistance.

Copies of the proposed change may be obtained by writing the Division of County Operations, P.O. Box 1437, Slot 1220, Little Rock, AR 72203, Attention: Office of Program Planning & Development. All comments must be submitted in writing to the address indicated above no later than 30 days from the date of this notice.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 682-8920 (voice) or 682-8933 (TDD).

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and operates, manages, and delivers services without regard to age, religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, sex, race, color or national origin.

/s/Director
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