

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Department of Children and Family Services  
Economic Stability**

**TANF Fatherhood  
(LAC 67:III.5571)**

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act R.S. 49:953 (A), the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) proposes to amend LAC 67:III, Subpart 15 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Initiatives, Chapter 55 TANF Initiatives, Section 5571 Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program (Effective September 30, 2002).

Pursuant to Louisiana's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, amendment of Section 5571 is required to update the TANF goal and eligibility criteria. TANF goal 2 (to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage) is being removed and the income eligibility criteria related to goal 2 is being removed. TANF goal 4 meets the initiative's objectives and its associated eligibility criteria allows the most flexibility for providers to serve a wide variety of disadvantaged families.

**Title 67**

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Part III. Economic Stability**

**Subpart 15. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)  
Initiatives**

**Chapter 55. TANF Initiatives**

**§5571. Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program (Effective  
September 30, 2002)**

A. ~~The Office of Family Support~~ department shall enter into contracts to create programs that will assist ~~low-income~~ fathers with various skills ~~including~~ which may include but are not limited to employment, life, positive parenting, fatherhood,

marriage and/or relationship building activities, and other skills in order to increase their ability to provide emotional and financial support for their children, and to create a network of community and faith-based programs that will provide linkages to and for state entities, specifically Child Support Enforcement Services and build a solid foundation for stronger relationships between mothers and fathers.

B. These services meet ~~TANF goal 2, to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage,~~ and TANF goal 4, to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families by eliminating emotional, social, financial, and legal barriers that hinder a father's ability to be fully engaged in his children's lives.

C. Eligibility for services is limited to fathers of minor children, ~~who have earned income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.~~ The mothers of their children, as well as their children, are eligible to participate in program activities.

D. Services are considered non-assistance by the agency.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.; R.S. 46:231 and R.S. 36:474; Act 13, 2002 Reg. Session, Act 18, 2007 Reg. Session.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, LR 29:191 (February 2003), amended LR 34:697 (April 2008), amended by the Department of Children and Family Services, Economic Stability Section, LR 48:

#### **Family Impact Statement**

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972. This rule is anticipated to help alleviate poverty for those participating in the program.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have a significant negative impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

**Small Business Impact Statement**

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

**Provider Impact Statement**

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have an impact on providers of services funded by the state as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

**Public Comments**

All interested persons may submit written comments through, April 26, 2022, to Shavana Howard, Assistant Secretary of Family Support, Department of Children and Family Services, P.O. Box 94065, Baton Rouge, LA 70804.

**Public Hearing**

A virtual public hearing on the proposed Rule will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 26, 2022, by the Department of Children and Family Services. All interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments via PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android at <https://stateofladcfs.zoom.us/j/89100424764>; via telephone by dialing (713) 353-0212 and entering conference code 430033. To find local AT&T numbers visit <https://www.teleconference.att.com/servlet/glbAccess?process=1&accessNumber=USA7133530212&accessCode=430033>. Individuals with disabilities who require special services should contact the DCFS Appeals Unit at least seven working days in advance of the hearing. For assistance, call (225) 342-4120 (Voice and TDD).

 2/17/22  
Marketa Garner Walters  
Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement: Julie Starns Department: Children and Family Services
Phone: (225) 342-0495 Office: Economic Stability
Return Address: 627 N. 4th Street, P.O. Box 94065 Baton Rouge, LA 70804 Rule Title: TANF Fatherhood
Date Rule Takes Effect: July 1, 2022

SUMMARY (Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

Other than publication costs of \$1,278, it is not anticipated that any state or local governmental units will incur costs or savings as a result of this rule change. The proposed rule amends LAC 67:III, Subpart 15 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Initiatives, Chapter 55 TANF Initiatives.

In current rule, the Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program aims to achieve two goals: (1) TANF Goal 2 - to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage) and (2) TANF Goal 4 - to encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families by eliminating emotional, social, financial, and legal barriers that hinder a father's ability to be fully engaged in his children's lives. The proposed rule removes TANF Goal 2 as a goal for this program. The proposed rule also clarifies that mothers and children are eligible to participate in Parenting/Fatherhood Services activities, which is the current practice of the program.

The current annual cost of the program is \$1.2 M to serve 120 families. The cost of the program and the number of families served by the program will not change as a result of this rule.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule change will not impact revenue collections for state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

Implementation of this proposed rule is not anticipated to have an economic cost or benefit to individuals, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. This rule updates the goal of the Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program. It clarifies that mothers and children are eligible to participate in the activities of the program, which is the current practice of the program.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

Implementation of this proposed rule change is not expected to have an effect on competition and employment.

Shavana Howard Signature of Agency Head or Designee

3/8/2022 | 11:35 AM CST Date

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

Shavana Howard, Assistant Secretary of Family Support Typed Name and Title of Agency Head or Designee

DATE OF SIGNATURE

Eric Horent DCFS Undersecretary

Handwritten signatures and notes: Evan Brassfield, Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer, 3/9/22

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) proposes to amend LAC 67:III, Subpart 15 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Initiatives, Chapter 55 TANF Initiatives, to update language concerning TANF goal and eligibility.

- B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Action is required in this matter to facilitate the expenditure of TANF funds.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No. There will be no increase in federal or state general fund expenditures for programmatic costs.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b)  X  NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

The only cost associated with this rule is the cost of publishing rulemaking, which is estimated to be approximately \$1,278 (Federal) in FY 22. The administrative cost of publishing rulemaking is routinely included in the department's annual operating budget appropriated by the Legislature.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET**

**I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED**

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

<b>COSTS</b>	<b>FY 22</b>	<b>FY 23</b>	<b>FY 24</b>
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$1,278 (rulemaking)	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Major Repair & Constr.	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,278</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Positions (#)</b>			

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

The only other cost associated with this rule is the cost of publishing rulemaking which is estimated to be approximately \$1,278 (Federal - TANF) in FY 22.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>FY 22</b>	<b>FY 23</b>	<b>FY 24</b>
State General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dedicated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$1,278	\$0	\$0
Other (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,278</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes. The administrative cost of publishing rulemaking is routinely included in the department's annual operating budget appropriated by the Legislature.

**B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.**

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

There are no estimated costs or savings to local governmental units resulting from this rule.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

There will be no impact on local governmental units.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET**

**II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS**

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

<b>Revenue Increase/Decrease</b>	<b>FY 22</b>	<b>FY 23</b>	<b>FY 24</b>
State General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dedicated Funds *	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

Implementation of this rule will have no impact on state or local revenue collections.

**III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS**

A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Implementation of this proposed rule is not anticipated to have an economic cost or benefit to individuals, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. This rule updates the goal of the Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program and clarifies that mothers and children are eligible to participate in the activities of the program.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

This rule will not have an impact on receipts and/or income.

**IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT**

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

This rule will not have an impact on competition for employment in the public and private sectors.