

§ 286.150

45 CFR Ch. II (10–1–12 Edition)

§ 286.150 Can a family, with a child under age 6, be penalized because a parent refuses to work because (s)he cannot find child care?

(a) If the individual is a single custodial parent caring for a child under age six, the Tribe may not reduce or terminate assistance based on the parent's refusal to engage in required work if he or she demonstrates an inability to obtain needed child care for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) Appropriate child care within a reasonable distance from the home or work site is unavailable;
 - (2) Informal child care by a relative or under other arrangements is unavailable or unsuitable; or
 - (3) Appropriate and affordable formal child care arrangements are unavailable.
- (b) Refusal to work when an acceptable form of child care is available is not protected from sanctioning.

(c) The Tribe will determine when the individual has demonstrated that he or she cannot find child care, in accordance with criteria established by the Tribe. These criteria must:

- (1) Address the procedures that the Tribe uses to determine if the parent has a demonstrated inability to obtain needed child care;
- (2) Include definitions of the terms "appropriate child care," "reasonable distance," "unsuitability of informal care," and "affordable child care arrangements"; and
- (3) Be submitted to us.

(d) The Tribal TANF agency must inform parents about:

- (1) The penalty exception to the Tribal TANF work requirement, including the criteria and applicable definitions for determining whether an individual has demonstrated an inability to obtain needed child care;

(2) The Tribe's procedures (including definitions) for determining a family's inability to obtain needed child care, and any other requirements or procedures, such as fair hearings, associated with this provision; and

(3) The fact that the exception does not extend the time limit for receiving Federal assistance.

§ 286.155 May a Tribe condition eligibility for Tribal TANF assistance on assignment of child support to the Tribe?

(a) Tribes have the option to condition eligibility for Tribal TANF assistance on assignment of child support to the Tribe consistent with paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) For Tribes choosing to condition eligibility for Tribal TANF assistance on assignment of child support to the Tribe, the TFAP must address the following—

(1) Procedures for ensuring that assigned child support collections in excess of the amount of Tribal TANF assistance received by the family will not be retained by the Tribe; and

(2) How any amounts generated under an assignment and retained by the Tribe will be used to further the Tribe's TANF program, consistent with § 286.45(f).

[65 FR 8530, Feb. 18, 2000, as amended at 69 FR 16672, Mar. 30, 2004]

§ 286.160 What are the applicable time frames and procedures for submitting a Tribal Family Assistance Plan?

(a) A Tribe must submit a Tribal TANF letter of intent and/or a TFAP to the Secretary according to the following time frames:

Implementation date:	Letter of intent due to ACF and the State:	Formal plan due to ACF:	ACF notification to the State due:
January 1, February 1 or March 1.	July 1 of previous year	September 1 of previous year	October 1 of previous year.
April 1, May 1 or June 1	October 1 of previous year	December 1 of previous year	January 1 of same year.
July 1, August 1 or September 1.	January 1 of same year	March 1 of same year	April 1 of same year.
October 1, November 1 or December 1.	April 1 of same year	June 1 of same year	July 1 of same year.