

Bulletin

August 7, 2006

Minnesota Department of Human Services □ P.O. Box 64941 □ St. Paul, MN 55164-0941

OF INTEREST TO

- County Directors
- Income Maintenance Supervisors and Staff
- Employment Services Providers
- Tribal Representatives

ACTION/DUE DATE

Please read.

EXPIRATION DATE

August 7, 2008

2006 Legislative changes for DWP and MFIP

TOPIC

This bulletin summarizes legislative changes to the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and the Diversionary Work Program (DWP).

PURPOSE

To provide information and instructions to County and Tribal Human Services and Employment Services staff.

CONTACT

For questions on income maintenance program policy:
Local Agency Support Policy Center
Minnesota Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 64965
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0965

SIGNED

CHARLES E. JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner
Children and Family Services Administration

1. Background

During the 2006 legislative session, the Legislature passed two changes in MFIP and DWP which affected funding. These changes are explained below. There are no policy changes to either of the programs.

A. Administrative Cap Waiver

The legislature enacted provisions which allow counties to request a waiver of the administrative cap for the purpose of providing supported employment, unpaid work or community work experience programs for a major segment of the county's or tribe's MFIP population. The administrative cap is currently 7.5%. Under an approved waiver, it can go up to 15 %.

Counties can apply for this waiver by submitting an amendment to their current Service Agreement which must include the following information:

- A revised budget
- A description of the budget change including any staffing changes, new activities or services that they will provide and how many people they expect to serve.
- A description of the population to be served

Counties will receive a letter from the Department before the end of August with additional instructions on how to apply for this waiver.

B. State funding for two-parent families

The legislature also enacted a provision that changes the funding stream on October 1, 2006 for two parent families. Currently two-parent families are funded with state funds that are used to meet the required maintenance of effort (MOE) spending under TANF law. The new state law funds two parent families with non-MOE state dollars. This change in funding will assist the state in meeting the work participation rate as it is calculated under the new interim TANF rules.

This is a behind the scenes change which does not affect how two parent families are coded on MAXIS.

C. Legal References

Legislative Session 2006, Chapter 282, Article 18 Section 1 and Section 2 (c).

D. Special Needs

This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by contacting Aaron Coonce at 651-296-1835 (voice) or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TDD), 7-1-1 or 1-877-627-3848 (speech to speech relay service).