



Clyde Reese, III, Commissioner

Georgia Department of Human Services • Division of Family and Children Services
Two Peachtree Street, Suite 19-490 • Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142 • 404-651-8409 • 404-657-5105

January 20, 2011

Mr. Eric Blanchette, Interim Program Manager
Administration for Children and Families
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 4M60
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909

Dear Mr. Blanchette,

Georgia is submitting a request for the caseload reduction credit to be applied in calculating the state's work participation rate for FFY 2010. Based on the reduction in Georgia's TANF caseload from 41,955 in FFY 2005 to 20,423 in FFY 2010, including adjustments for policy changes, we have determined that Georgia is eligible for a 47.1% reduction in the federal participation rate requirement, making the FFY 2010 rate 2.9%. Attached are Form ACF-202, Part 2, and Attachments A-C that contain the data used by Georgia in establishing the caseload reduction credit.

One of the requirements in submission of this report is a 45-day public comment period. We have submitted the report for public comments. The comment period ends on March 7, 2011. We have not received any comments at this time.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If further information is needed, please contact Ann Carter at 404-657-3731.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isabel A. Blanco", written in a cursive style.

Isabel A. Blanco, Executive Director
Division of Family and Children Services

cc: Clyde Reese, III, Commissioner
Keith Bostick, Deputy Director, Policy and Programs
Sharon Hill, PhD, Data Analysis Section Director
Lynne Boring, OFI Operations Director
Ann Carter, Interim TANF Unit Manager

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion December 09, 2010

State: GEORGIA

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

Overall Report (check one)
Two-parent Report

Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? yes
 no

PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005
(Complete this section for EACH change)

1. Name of eligibility change: Citizenship/Alienage
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: January 2006
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: A recipient of TANF must be a United States citizen or a lawfully admitted qualified alien. Prior to January 2006, the TANF applicant's / recipient's (A/R) statement of citizenship or alien status was acceptable documentation, unless questionable. Currently, TANF applicants or recipients must provide documentation other than the A/R's statement of their citizenship or alien status in order to receive TANF benefits.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form): See Description of the Methodology attached.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -570

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion December 09, 2010

State: GEORGIA

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

1. Name of eligibility change: Employment Intervention Services (EIS)
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: March 2006
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Employment Intervention Services (EIS) is a non-recurrent, short-term assistance that is equivalent to four times the maximum grant amount for the Assistant Unit (AU) size. The EIS program is available to applicants who:
 - have a full-time job but is temporarily on unpaid leave due to a temporary illness and is scheduled to return to work within 4 months, and the AU meets the Gross Income Ceiling (GIC) test,
 - are employed at the time of application and is potentially eligible for less than the maximum amount of cash assistance for the AU size, and so declines TANF cash assistance to preserve months of TANF eligibility, and
 - obtain employment during Applicant Job Search that reduces the applicant's potential benefits and the applicant decides to withdraw his or her application to stop the TANF clock.

Note: The impact of this policy on caseload reduction occurs when applicants voluntarily choose to close or withdraw their TANF application in order to receive Employment Intervention Services.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form)
5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -986

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion December 09, 2010

State: GEORGIA

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

1. Name of eligibility change: Transitional Support Services (TSS)
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: March 2006
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Transitional Support Services (TSS) can pay for or reimburse the cost of childcare, transportation and incidental expenses to an applicant or a recipient. Transitional Support Services (TSS) are available to applicants
 - whose employment obtained during applicant job search causes the AU to become ineligible for cash assistance,
 - who voluntarily withdraws his/her TANF application because employment obtained during applicant job search has significantly reduced his/her potential TANF amount and the client wishes to stop the TANF clock and preserve months of potential TANF eligibility,
 - who are employed at the time of application, are potentially eligible for less than the maximum amount of cash assistance for the AU size, decline TANF cash assistance to preserve months of TANF eligibility and choose TSS,
 - whose employment causes the AU to become ineligible for cash assistance,
 - whose on-going TANF case is closed due to loss of earned income disregards,
 - who voluntarily closes the TANF case because employment has significantly reduced the TANF grant amount and the client wishes to stop the TANF clock and preserve months of potential TANF eligibility or
 - who are employed or become employed but remain eligible for TANF cash assistance have an option to choose between EIS or TSS. They cannot receive both.
 - TSS is available for a period of six months beginning with the first month of ineligibility for cash benefits or the month in which the TANF case closes due to employment.

Note: The impact of this policy on caseload reduction occurs when applicants voluntarily choose to close their TANF case or withdraw their TANF application in order to receive Transitional Support Services.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
(attach supporting materials to this form)

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -213

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion December 09, 2010

State: GEORGIA

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

1. Name of eligibility change: Work Support Program
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 2006
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: The Work Support Program provides a time-limited cash supplement to a TANF assistance unit (AU) that, because of employment, either becomes ineligible for TANF or experiences a reduction in its TANF benefit amount and declines on-going TANF assistance in order to stop the TANF clock. An Au is not eligible to receive TANF cash assistance for 12 months once the AU starts receiving the Work Support Payment (WSP), unless the employed individual experiences and involuntary loss of employment or an involuntary reduction in employment hours. The WSP is available to former TANF AU's for a period of twelve (12) months and twice in their lifetime receipt of TANF. The WSP is paid through a two tiered process:
 - During the first six months, the former TANF AU can receive a cash supplement of \$200.00 per month. The AU will also be eligible to receive transitional support services for this initial six-month period.
 - During the second six months, the former TANF AU can receive a cash supplement of \$100.00 per month.

Note: The impact of this policy on caseload reduction occurs when recipients voluntarily choose to close their TANF case in order to receive Work Support Payments.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
(attach supporting materials to this form)

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -213

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion: December 9, 2010

State: GEORGIA

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

PART I – Description of the Methodology used to calculate the Caseload Reduction Estimates

(Attached supporting data to this form)

With the passage of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the base year for evaluating policy impacts has changed from 1995 to 2005. Georgia DFCS has implemented several policies since FFY 2005 to comply with Federal TANF regulations and state law. Some of these rules decreased Georgia's TANF caseload. Therefore, Georgia's Caseload Reduction report for FFY 2011 evaluates the impact of policies that reduce caseloads after that year. These policies are:

- A. Reduction Due to Citizenship/Alienage Policy (*Attachments A-1, A-2, A-3*)
Data Source: DMF 8013/8014 Termination and Denial Reports
Codes: 202 (Failed Citizenship), 507 (Did Not Meet Eligibility Requirement), 511 (Citizenship)
- B. Reduction Due to Employment Intervention Services (*Attachments B-1, B-2, B-3*)
Data Source: COSTAR Financial Reporting System
Codes: Employment Intervention Services Entitlement Code 59 from UAS Codes 527 and 528
- C. Reduction Due to Work Programs (*Attachments C-1, C-2, C-3*)
Programs: Transitional Support Services, Work Support Program
Data Source: DMF 8013 Terminations
Codes: 549, 550, 557, 558, 578 (Voluntary Withdrawal)

To evaluate the impact of these policies, DFCS obtained the appropriate data for each of the items listed above from its client tracking system, SUCCESS. First, DFCS compiled the number of cases in categories A-C for prior years and for each month in the current fiscal year. We distributed these data in a matrix for a twelve-month period, with each row representing the new or prior-year cases.

Secondly, we carried the monthly impact forward to each subsequent month in the year. In doing so, Georgia assumed that these cases might be active throughout the fiscal year. Then Georgia summed the figures for new cases and carryovers for each month (column) to obtain a monthly impact. These data are shown in the row labeled "**Total**" in each of the accompanying tables.

Thirdly, Georgia applied a decay rate to its data. Conceptually, this is the closure rate for cases. To calculate this statistic, DFCS compiled the total number of cases and closures from its Final TANF data for a one year time period (FFY 2010). Then, Georgia divided the total number of closures for FFY 2010 by the total number of cases for the same period. Georgia then applied this rate, which is 5.3%, to each of the monthly impact figures (**Total** row) using the following formula: $\text{Adjusted \#} = \sum (\text{Carryovers} + \text{New Cases}) - (\sum (\text{Carryovers} + \text{New Cases}) \times \text{Closure Rate})$

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

The “**Adjusted #**” rows in each Attachments A-C show the results of this calculation. Georgia summed these net impacts for each month and divided this figure by 12 to obtain an average monthly impact for each policy. We then added these statistics back into the Caseload average (See Attachment A, for example). Finally, Georgia subtracted the revised TANF caseload for FFY 2010 from the FFY 2005 and divided by the FFY 2005 caseload to obtain the percentage caseload reduction (See **Estimate of Caseload Reduction**). This result represents the percentage-point average change, net of eligibility changes, between the base year, FFY 2005 and FFY 2010. For every one percent decline in caseload, Georgia will derive a one percent decline in its participation rate.

Fiscal Year to which credit applies:

2011

PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit

Impact of All Changes

Reduction Due to Changes in Citizenship/Allegation Policy -570
 Reduction Due to Changes in Employment Intervention Services -986
 Reduction Due to Changes in Transitional Support Services/Work Support Programs -213

Caseload Reduction Calculation

FY 2005 TANF Caseload	41,747
FY 2005 SSP Caseload *	208
Total FY 2005 Caseload	41,955
FY 2010 TANF Caseload	20,423
FY 2010 SSP Caseload *	0
Total FY 2010 Caseload	20,423
Actual Decline	21,532
Decline – Net Impact	19,763
Caseload Reduction Credit =	47.1%

Net Impact

-1,769

* Georgia converted its two-parent SSP-MOE program to a state-funded entity in FFY 2007

Georgia - Attachment A-1
Reduction due to Changes in Citizenship/Allienage Policy

Impact on Each Month in FY 2010

	Oct-09	Nov	Dec	Jan-10	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Prior years carryover	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	-302	
Oct-09	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	
Nov		-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	
Dec			-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	
Jan-10				-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	
Feb					-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	
Mar						-57	-57	-57	-57	-57	-57	-57	
Apr							-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	
May								-45	-45	-45	-45	-45	
Jun									-32	-32	-32	-32	
Jul										-44	-44	-44	
Aug											-26	-26	
Sep												-38	
Grand Total													-7,196

Total	-332	-383	-435	-486	-538	-595	-642	-687	-719	-763	-789	-827	-7,196
Decay	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	-6,837
Adjusted Statistics	-315	-364	-413	-462	-511	-565	-610	-653	-683	-725	-750	-786	-570
													FY 2010 monthly average

Georgia - Attachment A-3
Reduction due to Changes in Citizenship/Allegation Policy

Impact on Each Month in FY 2008

	Oct-07	Nov	Dec	Jan-08	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Prior years carryover	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93
Oct-07	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30
Nov	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8
Dec	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7
Jan-08	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40
Feb	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30
Mar	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16
Apr	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14
May	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14
Jun	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27
Jul	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32	-32
Aug	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17
Sep	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29
Grand Total												

Total	-123	-131	-138	-178	-208	-224	-238	-252	-279	-311	-328	-357	-2,767
Decay	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	-2,621
Adjusted Statistics	-116	-124	-131	-169	-197	-212	-225	-239	-264	-295	-311	-338	-218

FY 2008 monthly average

Georgia - Attachment B-1
Reduction due to Changes in Employment Intervention Services

	Impact on Each Month in FY 2010												
	Oct-09	Nov	Dec	Jan-10	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep *	
Prior years carryover	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	-806	
Oct-09	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	
Nov	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	
Dec	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	-43	
Jan-10	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	
Feb	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	
Mar	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	
Apr	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	
May	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	
Jun	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	-37	
Jul	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	
Aug	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42	
Sep	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	
Total	-846	-881	-924	-954	-979	-1,016	-1,051	-1,080	-1,117	-1,164	-1,206	-1,241	
Decay	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	
Adjusted Statistics	-804	-837	-878	-906	-930	-965	-998	-1026	-1061	-1106	-1146	-1179	
												FY 2010 monthly average	
													-986
													Grand Total
													-12,459
													-11,836

* Due to lack of September, 2008 data, August data substituted.

Georgia - Attachment B-2
Reduction due to Changes in Employment Intervention Services

	Impact on Each Month in FY 2009													
	Oct-08	Nov	Dec	Jan-08	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep *		
Prior years carryover	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	-504	
Oct-08	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	-71	
Nov	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	-67	
Dec	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	-61	
Jan-09	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	
Feb	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	-29	
Mar	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	
Apr	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	
May	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	
Jun	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	
Jul	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	-41	
Aug	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60	
Sep	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	-47	
Grand Total														-47
Total	-575	-642	-703	-753	-782	-813	-853	-894	-951	-1,015	-1,075	-1,122	-1,122	-10,178
Decay	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	-9,667
Adjusted Statistics	-546	-610	-668	-715	-743	-772	-810	-849	-903	-964	-1021	-1066	-1066	-806
														FY 2009 monthly average

* Due to lack of September, 2008 data, August data substituted.

Georgia - Attachment C-2

Reduction due to Changes in Transitional Support Services and Work Support Program

Impact on Each Month in FY 2009

	Oct-08	Nov	Dec	Jan-08	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Prior years carryover	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27
Oct-08	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28	-28
Nov	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27	-27
Dec	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21
Jan-09	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34	-34
Feb	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31	-31
Mar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aug	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	-14	-1,359											
Total	-56	-82	-95	-118	-141	-122	-122	-122	-122	-122	-122	-136	-1,359
Decay	0.05	-1,291											
Adjusted Statistics	-52	-78	-90	-112	-134	-116	-116	-116	-116	-116	-116	-129	-108
													FY 2009 monthly average

FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

Date of Completion: December 9, 2010

State: Georgia

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2011

PART 3 -- Certification

I certify that we have provided the public an appropriate opportunity to comment on the estimates and methodology used to complete this report and considered those comments in completing it. Further, I certify that this report incorporates all reductions in the caseload resulting from State eligibility changes and changes in Federal requirements since Fiscal Year 2005.

(signature)

(name)

(title)