To: Wisconsin Works Agency Directors  
    Child Support Agency Directors  
    County Department of Human and Social Services Directors  
    Tribal Social Services Directors  
    Workforce Development Board Directors  

From: John Chapin  
    Division Administrator  

RE: Wisconsin’s Federal Fiscal Years 2019-20 TANF State Plan  

PURPOSE  

This memo is to provide information about the draft Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2019-20 (October 1, 2018-September 30, 2020), and the opportunity for public review and comments.  

BACKGROUND  

In order to continue to receive funding under the federal TANF block grant, Wisconsin must submit a state plan for FFYs 2019-20 to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The draft state plan is available for review and comments through Thursday, October 18, 2018. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) will consider all comments and, as appropriate, will incorporate any revisions into the draft plan. The final draft state plan will be submitted to ACF no later than December 31, 2018.  

The draft state plan describes the state TANF program as framed by the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), by subsequent federal TANF regulations, and by cumulative Wisconsin state legislation pertaining to Wisconsin Works (W-2) and related programs.  

The plan provides a general overview of the W-2 program and Wisconsin’s other TANF programs. However, local W-2 agencies must continue to use the Department’s policies and
procedures, including the W-2 Manual and other official DCF informational releases, for all
program guidance.

CONTENT OF THE PLAN

Under PRWORA, states must have a plan that outlines how they intend to conduct a TANF
program that provides assistance to needy families and provides parents with job preparation,
work, and support services to enable them to leave the program and become self-sufficient.
Wisconsin will provide TANF-funded services to needy families with incomes at or under the
various percents of the Federal Poverty Level, in addition to other financial and non-financial
eligibility requirements, which are specified for the services in the plan. For the programs that
provide the fourth purpose of the TANF program (i.e. encouraging the formation and
maintenance of two-parent families), there are no required income limits.

The plan includes the required assurances in the United States Code at 42 U.S.C. 602(a)(2)-(7)
related to conducting a program that, in addition to the fourth TANF purpose above: 1) provides
parents with job preparation, work, and support services to enable them to leave the program
and become self-sufficient; 2) establishes goals and takes action to prevent and reduce the
incidence of non-marital pregnancies, with special emphasis on teenage pregnancies; and
3) provides education and training on the problem of statutory rape so that teenage pregnancy
prevention programs may be expanded in scope to include men. DCF consulted with the
Departments of Health Services, Public Instruction, Justice, Administration, and Revenue in
developing the portions of the plan assurances related to their Department’s programs in the
draft plan.

DCF has organized the information in this plan by the federal provisions, and categorized the
descriptions of programs and services into: 1) TANF programs and services, including the W-2
program and Wisconsin’s other TANF programs/services; and 2) Wisconsin’s other
programs/services for needy families.

PLAN AVAILABILITY

The draft TANF Plan is available:
  o On the DCF website at https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/researchers/state-plans; or
  o By requesting a copy from Jenifer Cole at (608) 422-6274 or, for TDD
    Telecommunication Service for the Deaf, at 711.

COMMENT PERIOD

Written comments on the draft plan may be submitted to Jenifer Cole. Please submit written
comments no later than Thursday, October 18, 2018, to ensure your comments are considered
for the public comment period on the draft TANF State Plan.
CONTACT

Mail: Jenifer Cole
Bureau of Working Families, Room A200
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

E-mail: bwf_co@wisconsin.gov

DCF/DFES/BWF/LMW