



How to Apply for TANF

WHAT IS TANF?

Florida Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, a government program.

This program is designed to help needy families achieve self sufficiency. States receive grants to create programs that assist families to achieve a range of benefits and activities. *TANF helps families with children and has federal requirements about work and time limits for families receiving assistance.*

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- US Citizens
- Residents of Florida
- Legal Residents or Qualified Residents (Afghans, Ukrainians and other refugees *are* eligible)
- Must be unemployed or underemployed with a low income
- Have one of the following: Child 18 years or younger, or are pregnant, or are 18 years or younger and are the head of household

You can find more information on who is eligible [HERE](#).

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must have SSN or proof of application for one
- Must fulfill work requirements (ex. must participate in work activities. Find out more information on work activities below)
- Time Limit Requirement (Cash assistance is limited to a lifetime total of 48 months as an adult, except for child only cases which have no limit.)
- Can not apply if also receiving a Match Grant (Refugee Resettlement Agencies give MG to clients for up to 8 months, so check with your matched family when their MG ends)
- Assets - A family household may have 2,000 in countable assets. Licensed vehicles needed for individuals subject to the work requirement may not exceed a combined value of \$8,500.

What are Work Activities?

Adults in families receiving cash assistance must work or participate in work related activities for a specified number of hours per week depending on the number of work-eligible adults in the family and the age of children.

You can find the details of the requirements [HERE](#)

About Time Limit Requirement:

Florida law limits receipt of assistance to not more than 48 cumulative months of assistance with exemptions to the time limit provided for hardship. Allowable hardships include:

- Individuals who are diligently participating in work activities who have been unable to obtain employment due to significant employment barriers combined with a need for more time,
- Teen parents who are diligently participating in work activities who need an exemption in order to have 24 months of eligibility beyond receipt of a high school diploma or equivalent,
- Individuals who are victims of domestic violence that delayed or affected the individuals work participation
- Extension for minor children of a work eligible family where time limit termination of benefits would likely result in the child being placed into emergency shelter or foster care.

HOW TO APPLY? :

You can apply online by going to myflorida.com/accessflorida. On this website you 1) need to create an account and then 2) fill out the virtual application. If you prefer, you can [click here](#) to download the application form, fill it out and submit it in person to a local [Florida Customer Service Center](#).

When applying online on the Access Florida Website, click the **Apply for Additional Benefits** button on the top of the account. When filling out the portion of what benefits you are applying for, you must click “Cash assistance for refugees or some legal noncitizens who just came to the United States”. Clicking this option allows you to apply for TANF.

