



**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)  
Program Services Framework Estimates for SFY 2024-2027  
Prepared February 23, 2023**

## Overview

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awards Ohio \$725.6 million each year for its TANF Block Grant. Federal law requires states to contribute non-federal resources for programs for low-income families, as well. This is called maintenance of effort (MOE). Ohio is required to contribute \$416.9 million in MOE each federal fiscal year. Ohio consistently meets its MOE requirement.

If a state does not meet its MOE requirement, the federal government can impose penalties, including a dollar-for-dollar reduction of the following year's block grant. A state would then be required to use non-federal resources to replace the block grant reduction.

TANF and MOE resources can be used only to serve individuals and families with incomes under 200 percent of the federal poverty level and only to meet any of the following four purposes:

- 1) Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives;
- 2) End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage;
- 3) Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies; and
- 4) Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

## Revenue

Ohio's TANF Services Framework revenue is comprised of three main resources: (1) the federal TANF Block Grant, (2) the TANF Sustainability Fund and (3) MOE resources.

### **TANF Federal Block Grant**

Ohio's federal TANF Block Grant is \$725.6 million each year.

### **TANF Sustainability Fund**

Ohio's TANF Sustainability Fund includes prior years' TANF Block Grant funds.

### **MOE Resources**

Ohio meets its annual MOE requirement with both state and local funding streams. Most of the MOE requirement is met with funding from the ODJFS operating budget.

## **Expenses**

Most of Ohio's TANF Services Framework expenses fall into one of three categories: (1) payments to Publicly Funded Child Care providers, (2) funding to county departments of job and family services and other local partners, and (3) monthly Ohio Works First cash assistance payments for low-income families.

### **Publicly Funded Child Care**

Publicly Funded Child Care is supported by several funding sources, including TANF Services Framework funding, over \$419 million annually from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG), General Revenue Funding (some of which supports the CCDBG MOE and matching federal requirements), and additional dedicated resources earmarked for early learning and development programs. First, ODJFS ensures that all available CCDBG, appropriated pandemic relief funding, non-federal CCDBG resources, and TANF non-supplanting base funds are fully budgeted. Then ODJFS utilizes resources in the TANF Services Framework to fund the balance of child care obligations.

For the current and next biennium, funding for Publicly Funded Child Care from TANF must be at least \$229 million each year. This represents the required TANF non-supplanting spend to fulfill ARPA child care funding requirements.

### **Local Administration and Program Funding**

Ohio's human services programs are state-supervised and locally administered. The three largest allocations funded by the TANF Framework are the following:

- 1) **TANF Regular:** This allocation provides funding to Ohio's county departments of job and family services to support activities and services for the Ohio Works First (OWF) and Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) programs. Allowable activities include case management; screening and assessments; diversion benefits and service provisions; client program information provisions; and work activities, work supports, and post-employment services and development.
- 2) **TANF Administration:** This allocation is distributed to Ohio's county departments of job and family services for administrative costs incurred while providing program activities and services for the OWF and PRC programs. Allowable uses include salaries and benefits for administrative staff; costs associated with eligibility determination; fraud and abuse units; and preparation of program plans, budgets, and reports.
- 3) **Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program:** Most workforce services for young people in Ohio are provided through the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP), which integrates both TANF and federal workforce funding to help 14- to 24-year-olds build career paths, find employment and break the cycle of poverty. Key target populations include current and former foster youth, individuals who are homeless or runaways, high school dropouts, individuals who are parenting or pregnant, and individuals with disabilities.

### **Ohio Works First Cash Assistance**

The Ohio Works First program is the financial assistance component of the TANF Services Framework. OWF provides a monthly cash grant to eligible families whose income is less than 50 percent of the federal poverty level. This funding helps meet families' immediate needs while parents work toward self-sufficiency and economic independence.

### **Ohio Association of Foodbanks**

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks, comprised of Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks, utilizes TANF funds to purchase and distribute food products to low-income Ohioans.

### **JFS Administration**

State-level TANF administrative costs include TANF-related payroll, vendor contracts and significant investments in information technology projects, mainly for the continued development and maintenance of the Ohio Benefits eligibility system.

### **Children Services Initiatives**

Ohio's TANF Services Framework supports two children services programs:

- 1) The Kinship Permanency Incentive Program, which supports eligible kinship caregivers who commit to permanently caring for children.
- 2) The Independent Living program, which includes life skills training and work supports for older children in foster care and those who have recently aged out of foster care.

### **Legislative Earmarks**

This framework represents legislative earmarks proposed in House Bill 33 for the upcoming biennium and estimated submitted earmarks for the fiscal years 2026-2027 biennial budget.

### **Non-JFS MOE Claim**

This allocation represents TANF MOE resources contributed by entities other than ODJFS, such as the Ohio Association of Foodbanks and the Ohio Department of Education.

### **Title XX Transfer**

States may transfer up to 10 percent of their annual TANF Block Grant to the Social Services Block Grant. ODJFS allocates this funding to Ohio's county departments of job and family services to support programs and services to children, individuals and/or families whose income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

### **Governor's Office / Fatherhood Commission**

The TANF Services Framework supports two additional entities: (1) The Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (GOFBCI), which provides financial support to community organizations, and (2) the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, which is housed within ODJFS and funds community-based, nonprofit programs that provide opportunities for fathers to become better parents, partners, and providers.

**Ohio Department of Job and Family Services**  
Office of Fiscal & Monitoring Services

Last Updated: February 23, 2023

**The TANF Services Framework**

	SFY24 Estimates	SFY25 Estimates	SFY26 Estimates	SFY27 Estimates
<b>Revenue:</b>				
TANF - Federal Block Grant	\$ 725,565,965	\$ 725,565,965	\$ 725,565,965	\$ 725,565,965
TANF Sustainability Fund Balance Brought Fwd	\$ 472,449,564	\$ 453,789,046	\$ 435,093,493	\$ 291,280,665
MOE Resources	\$ 453,265,343	\$ 453,265,343	\$ 451,985,314	\$ 451,985,314
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,651,280,872</b>	<b>\$ 1,632,620,354</b>	<b>\$ 1,612,644,772</b>	<b>\$ 1,468,831,944</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Publicly Funded Child Care - TANF	\$ 229,631,211	\$ 229,631,211	\$ 398,169,430	\$ 542,945,892
Publicly Funded Child Care - MOE	\$ 174,199,799	\$ 174,199,799	\$ 172,419,770	\$ 172,419,770
Local Admin & Program Funding	\$ 335,579,071	\$ 335,579,071	\$ 335,579,071	\$ 335,579,071
Ohio Works First Cash Assistance	\$ 245,055,893	\$ 245,055,893	\$ 245,055,893	\$ 245,055,893
Ohio Association of Food Banks	\$ 22,050,000	\$ 22,050,000	\$ 22,050,000	\$ 22,050,000
JFS Administration	\$ 61,371,625	\$ 61,409,706	\$ 58,305,706	\$ 58,305,706
Child Welfare Initiatives	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 7,000,000
Earmarks	\$ 11,875,000	\$ 11,875,000	\$ 11,875,000	\$ 11,875,000
Non-JFS MOE Claim	\$ 93,015,259	\$ 93,015,259	\$ 93,015,259	\$ 93,015,259
Title XX Transfer	\$ 66,556,596	\$ 66,556,596	\$ 66,556,596	\$ 66,556,596
GOFBCI / Fatherhood Commission	\$ 19,035,000	\$ 19,035,000	\$ 19,035,000	\$ 19,035,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 1,265,369,454</b>	<b>\$ 1,265,407,535</b>	<b>\$ 1,429,061,725</b>	<b>\$ 1,573,838,187</b>
Estimated Underspending:	\$ 67,877,628	\$ 67,880,674	\$ 107,697,617	\$ 122,175,264
Adjusted TANF Sustainability Fund Balance Carry Forward:	\$ 453,789,046	\$ 435,093,493	\$ 291,280,665	\$ 17,169,021

**Framework Notes:**

The TANF Total Expenses assumes full spend each fiscal year.

Any annual TANF program underspend will modify the amount of the TANF Sustainability Fund Balance.

Estimated Underspending is based on historic spending levels vs budgeted amounts

Adjusted TANF Sustainability Fund Balance adjusts for estimated underspending