



THE TANF "DIVERSION" PROGRAM AS A RESOURCE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

Those who have lost their jobs, but expect to be called back to work when the Governor's temporary closure of non-essential businesses has been lifted, may want to consider applying for the TANF diversion program.

- **Diversion is a long-standing program for families/pregnant women with recent work histories.**
- **Can get up to three months' TANF in a lump sum up-front if won't need on-going TANF (that is, have a plan for income after that)**
- **Must meet TANF income and asset limits, but there is:**
 - No work requirement**
 - No child support cooperation requirement.**

How much can I get? Monthly grant amounts x 3:

- o **1 person \$205 x 3 = \$615**
- o **2 persons \$316 x 3 = \$948**
- o **3 persons \$403 x 3 = \$1209**
- o **4 persons \$497 x 3 = \$1491**

How do I apply for TANF Diversion?

- **Online at compass.state.pa.us (you can select a Spanish application)**
- **Download and mail a paper application (these are available in several different languages)**

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/Apply-for-Benefits.aspx>

Tips:

- **CAO workers should explore the diversion option during the TANF interview but may forget**
- **Ask for Diversion on the application, in the comment box.**
- **Many won't qualify in March, but will qualify starting in April when they have no income.**

Community Justice Project is a nonprofit legal aid program that provides legal assistance at no cost to income-eligible clients

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