



2005.08.25.A.2

Strategic Policy

Title:	TANF Deobligation Policy Modification
Adopted:	08/25/2005
Effective:	08/25/2005

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Local workforce development boards (local boards) within the CareerSource Florida network that fail to timely and appropriately deobligate surplus Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds, resulting in TANF funds reverting back to the state, shall face a reduction in their TANF allocation for the next state fiscal year. This reduction is in the exact amount of reverted funds. Local boards identified through the financial monitoring process to have circumvented the state's certified-forward process, by drawing down all remaining TANF cash prematurely and having excess cash on hand to reconcile pending invoices, shall face a reduction in their next state fiscal year TANF allocation and a 10 percent penalty.

Local boards identified as receiving a reduction in current year TANF allocations for the reasons mentioned above are provided an opportunity to appeal the reduction of funds to the CareerSource Florida, Inc. (CSF) Finance Council. After reviewing the circumstances, the Financial Council shall make a recommendation to the CSF Executive Committee for consideration. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.

This policy promotes effective, efficient and maximum utilization of TANF funds statewide by recommending sanctions for local boards that fail to timely and voluntarily deobligate TANF funds. The possibility of sanctions encourages the responsible use of funds for their intended purpose and limits reversion of TANF funding. This policy ensures the maximum allowed TANF funding allocated to the 24 local boards.

II. BACKGROUND

TANF funds are provided to the state by federal block grants with some special supplements provided to Florida and other states. Funds are available for one fiscal year.

Local boards must assure CSF and the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) that TANF funds are expended on legitimate TANF purposes. Local boards must monitor their expenditure of TANF funds to timely identify and voluntarily deobligate all surplus TANF funds. CSF reallocates deobligated funds to local boards to enable their intended expenditure prior to the June 30 deadline.

There are no federally established formulas for sub-state distribution of TANF funds. TANF administration in most states is state or county-based, without decentralized governance/delivery structures similar to Florida’s local boards. The Florida Legislature appropriates the yearly distribution of TANF funds to address state and local area needs. Funds are administered and directed by the CSF Board of Directors. Reductions of TANF funds to the workforce system coupled with other needs faced by local areas, such as lack of other funds, require the CSF board to ensure appropriate and timely use of all TANF funds through voluntary deobligation and reallocation.

To prevent the reversion of limited TANF funding within the workforce system and encourage due diligence, the CSF board adopted this voluntary deobligation policy.

III. AUTHORITY

[Chapter 216.301, Florida Statutes](#)

[Chapters 445.004 and 445.007, Florida Statutes](#)

IV. HISTORY

Date	Description
05/17/2017	Revised copy in plain language; changed references to Workforce Florida, Inc. (WFI) to CareerSource Florida (CSF); changed regional workforce boards and regions to local workforce development boards (or local boards); and consolidated sections to align more closely with DEO administrative policies.

V. ATTACHMENTS

None.