

Where do I Apply?

The TANF application process has two components:

- ✓ The **work** component is handled by Employment Specialists within DLR offices across the state and DSS offices in reservation areas.
- ✓ The **eligibility** component is handled by Benefits Specialists within DSS.

The application process begins with the Employment Specialist unless you meet one of the following conditions:

- ✓ You are a dependent child under 16 years old
- ✓ You are a parent taking care of a baby under 12 weeks old
- ✓ You are approved to receive Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, or 100 percent disabled veteran

Contact Us

Department of Social Services

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605.773.4678

Email:

TANF@state.sd.us

Online:

dss.sd.gov/tanf

Department of Labor and Regulation

Phone:

605.773.3101

Online:

dlr.sd.gov/employmentprograms/tanf.aspx

South Dakota's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program



Helping You Move Ahead

DSS 
Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future

dlr south dakota department of
labor and
regulation

What is TANF?

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a program for families with children under the age of 18 (or under 19 if the child is in high school) who have little or no income and are deprived of a parent. Deprivation could include having a parent who is:

- ✓ Deceased
- ✓ Absent from the home
- ✓ Mentally or physically incapacitated
- ✓ Unemployed

Families with serious financial needs may qualify for TANF monthly cash payments.

The TANF payment is based on who lives with your family, who is eligible in your household, and other income and resources available to your family.



Partnerships that Make a difference

TANF is administered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) to help South Dakota families meet basic needs while gaining knowledge and skills to improve their employment opportunities.

DSS partners with the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) to deliver the **work** component of the program in DLR service areas.

Opportunities and Choices

Employment Specialists work with parents receiving TANF to:

- ✓ Explore unique skills, interests and challenges
- ✓ Build on strengths
- ✓ Learn new skills to achieve goals
- ✓ Arrange additional training such as:
 - GED/High School diploma
 - English as a Second Language



- On-the-Job Training
- Work Experience
- Job-related Education
- Vocational Training/College

✓ Get referrals to address issues such as:

- Mental health
- Addiction
- Domestic violence
- Learning disabilities

✓ Address challenges to finding and keeping employment, such as:

- Child care
- Transportation
- Living expenses.

Your Employment Specialist will work with you to develop your own personal responsibility plan to help you become self-sufficient and employed.