



TANF Disaster Assistance

When the governor declares a county to be in a state of emergency, residents may be eligible for one of the following programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Disaster Assistance or Non-TANF Disaster Assistance. Anyone who thinks they may be eligible for either of these programs may apply at their county department of job and family services.

What services are provided?

County agencies determine the amount of benefits and services that will be provided, based on local needs and available resources. For example, a county agency may choose to provide assistance to eligible recipients for appliance replacement, home repair or clothing purchases.

What is the difference between TANF and Non-TANF Assistance?

TANF Disaster Assistance is federally funded. Non-TANF Disaster Assistance is paid from Ohio's General Revenue Fund.

Who is eligible for TANF Disaster Assistance?

To be eligible, families must meet income limits and include, at a minimum, a pregnant woman or a minor child. They also must live in the affected county, have been adversely affected by the emergency, and have evidence of economic need. In many cases, this means that the family's income cannot exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Additionally, the family must meet all other federal and state laws applicable to the TANF program.

Who is eligible for Non-TANF Disaster Assistance?

To be eligible, recipients of Non-TANF Disaster Assistance cannot be eligible for TANF Disaster Assistance. They cannot have children, and they must be either 55 or older or currently receiving disability benefit payments, such as Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability, Veterans Affairs Disability, Public Employees Retirement System Disability, Railroad Retirement Disability or Black Lung Benefits. In addition, they must live in the affected county, have been adversely affected by the emergency, and have evidence of economic need.

What is the deadline to apply for either program?

Counties determine the application deadline. Typically, they accept applications for up to four weeks after the governor's declaration, but it can be longer.

For more information:

Email TANF-FSTA@jfs.ohio.gov or call (866) 886-3537, option 6. Reporters should direct all media inquiries to (614) 466-6650.