

**Economic Services Administration  
060 - M2 - XU - TRIBAL TANF**

**Agency Submittal: 2015-17 Final 2017 Sup**

**Budget Period: 2015-17**

**SUMMARY**

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) requests \$106,000 GF-State to allow the Hoh Tribe to rejoin the Quileute Tribe's existing Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program in Fiscal Year 2017. In addition, ESA requests a placeholder for the initial awards for the Cowlitz and Chehalis Tribes. These Tribes are currently negotiating Tribal TANF programs. The amount of funding needed will not be known until the final federal and GF-State TANF awards are determined. Increased funding is needed to maintain funding for the State's TANF/WorkFirst program while providing these Tribes the federal TANF awards required by federal law and a fair and equitable amount of GF-State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding as required by state law. Each Tribe serves an economically-depressed service area. This request will support the operation of the Cowlitz, Chehalis and Quileute Tribal TANF programs.

**PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Prior to 2004, the Quileute Tribe partnered with the Hoh Tribe to provide Tribal TANF services to Hoh tribal members. From 2004 to 2016, the Hoh decided to no longer have the Quileute Tribe provide TANF services and subsequently \$106,000 – the amount provided to support the Hoh population - was removed from the State MOE paid to the Quileute Tribe's TANF funding. This year, the Hoh Tribe has re-partnered with the Quileute. This request for \$106,000 will provide State MOE to the Quileute Tribe to support their provision of TANF services to Hoh tribal members.

In addition to the re-partnering between the Quileute and Hoh Tribes, the Cowlitz and Chehalis Tribes have each submitted a Tribal Family and Assistance Plan (TFAP) to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (ACF) with a currently undetermined funding need. Funding levels are determined based on the anticipated client count. After ACF approves a TFAP, in accordance with federal law, DSHS submits an anticipated client count and funding level amount to ACF. A Tribe may accept the data submitted or initiate negotiations by submitting their own data. The goal of negotiation is to determine the amount of federal TANF funds to be awarded to the Tribe and deducted from the State's TANF block grant award.

The Cowlitz Tribe wants to serve all Native American families residing in Cowlitz and Clark counties. The Chehalis Tribe wants to serve all Native American families residing in Grays Harbor and Lewis counties and its own tribal members within its near-reservation service area in Mason and Thurston counties.

ESA is negotiating initial funding levels with the Cowlitz and Chehalis Tribes and has already agreed to restore funding to the Quileute Tribal TANF program to serve the Hoh Tribe. State-Tribal negotiations to establish the amount of GF-State TANF MOE funding to be provided to the Tribes must be completed prior to implementation of a Tribal TANF program.

As required under Federal law (45 CFR 286.20), the amount of the federal TANF Block grant to be permanently transferred to the Tribe must be equal to the dollar amount of the federal funds that the State spent for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and related programs for the Tribe's designated service population in Fiscal Year 1994.



**DSHS VISION**  
People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

**DSHS MISSION**  
To transform lives

**DSHS VALUES**  
Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

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In addition, under RCW 74.08A.040, DSHS is directed to transfer a “fair and equitable amount” of GF-State TANF MOE funds to the eligible Tribe. This section also requires that the amount of GF-State MOE funds to be transferred is specified in the biennial appropriations act. Under the current TANF budget, no funding has been allocated to transfer to the Cowlitz or Chehalis Tribe once it receives ACF approval to operate a TANF program.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

This request is for GF-State TANF MOE to support the operation of the Cowlitz, Chehalis and Quileute Tribal TANF programs. In order to maintain the current level of effort in Washington’s TANF program, GF-State funding will be needed to replace funding (GF-State and federal) transferred to the Tribes.

The GF-State MOE amount needed will be the net difference between ESA’s spending associated with this population and the amount necessary for the Tribe to operate a fully functioning TANF grant and services program. This may result in a net increase in costs for several reasons:

1. Current caseload information indicates that there are more Native American families in Cowlitz and Clark counties receiving assistance versus 1994 levels. Given this increase, the amount of MOE will be expected to exceed amounts based on 1994 levels.
2. The average cost per unduplicated assistance unit for the Tribe is higher than it is for ESA. All calculations used to determine Tribal costs are based on the actual costs of the unduplicated assistance units in the TANF program. This amount is higher due to the longer length-of-stay of tribal families on the grant, higher per capita administrative costs (due to the lack of economies of scale) and the service package that the Tribe will provide (as provided for in their Tribal Family Assistance Plan).
3. Citizens have the right to choose where they receive services. ESA’s experience has been that some Tribal members elect to stay in the State program. This can lead to a shortfall in the State program because the ACF calculations assume all those eligible to receive services through the Tribe will do so. When fewer make that choice, ESA is short of funds. ESA is unable to determine the number of Tribal members that will stay with the State program.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

ESA expects to maintain the current level of services in the State TANF/WorkFirst program while supporting the Quileute, Hoh, Cowlitz and Chehalis Tribes in providing TANF services to their members.

### STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

This proposal would expect to receive support from the Cowlitz Tribe, Chehalis Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Hoh Tribe, and South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency. There is no known opposition to this proposal.

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Program Contact: Edd Giger, (360) 725-4515

OTHER CONNECTIONS

Performance Outcomes/Important Connections

**1. Does this DP provide essential support to one or more of the Governor's Results Washington priorities?**

Goal 4: Healthy and Safe Communities - Supported People - 3.1.a - Increase percentage who leave public assistance (TANF) due to increased income or at their request from 54 percent to 60 percent by 07-30-2017.

**2. The decision package meets the following DSHS' strategic objectives:**

1.2: The percentage of people who leave Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) due to self-sufficiency or at their request will increase.

**3. Identify other important connections or impacts below.** (Indicate 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' identify the connections or impacts related to the proposal.)

- a) Regional/County impacts? No
- b) Other local government impacts? No
- c) Tribal government impacts? Yes, Cowlitz and Chehalis Tribes
- d) Other state agency impacts? No
- e) Responds to specific task force, report, mandate or executive order? No
- f) Does request contain a compensation change or require changes to a Collective Bargaining Agreement? No
- g) Facility/workplace needs or impacts? No
- h) Capital budget impacts? No
- i) Is change required to existing statutes, rules or contracts? No
- j) Is the request related to litigation? No
- k) Is the request related to Puget Sound recovery? No
- l) Other important connections? None

**4. Please provide a detailed discussion of connections/impacts identified above.**

State and federal law requires the transfer of TANF funds to Tribes electing to operate a Tribal TANF program. Without the funding requested in this package, funding for the State's TANF/WorkFirst program will be reduced by

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this transfer. Not funding this package could necessitate a reduction in the services or benefits currently provided in the State's TANF/WorkFirst program.

**Alternatives/Consequences/Other**

**5. What alternatives were explored by the agency, and why was this alternative chosen?**

The request cannot be absorbed within existing resources for the following reasons: Without funding for this package, the State's TANF program will not be fully funded.

**6. How has or can the agency address the issue or need within its current appropriation level?**

The request cannot be absorbed within existing resources for the following reasons: Without funding for this package, the State's TANF program will not be fully funded.

**7. Does this decision package include funding for any IT-related costs (hardware, software, services, cloud-based services, contracts or IT staff)?**

- No**
- Yes (Include an IT Addendum)**

**Fiscal Detail**

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<b>Operating Expenditures</b>	<b><u>FY 2016</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2017</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2018</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2019</u></b>
001-1 General Fund-State	0	106,000	0	0
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Staffing</b>	<b><u>FY 2016</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2017</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2018</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2019</u></b>
FTEs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Performance Measure Detail**

<b>Activity:</b>	<b>Incremental Changes</b>			
	<b><u>FY 2016</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2017</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2018</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2019</u></b>
<b>Program: 060</b>				
F108 WorkFirst Employment and Training	0	0	0	0
No measures submitted for package				

**Object Detail**

	<b><u>FY 2016</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2017</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2018</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2019</u></b>
N Grants, Benefits, and Client Services	0	106,000	0	0
<b>Total Objects</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**DSHS Source Detail**

**Overall Funding**

<b>Operating Expenditures</b>	<b><u>FY 2016</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2017</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2018</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2019</u></b>
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**Fund 001-1, General Fund-State**

**Sources Title**

GFS2 General Fund State TANF Moe	0	106,000	0	0
<b>Total for Fund 001-1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Overall Funding</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>