

## 3.6.1 Time Limit Extensions

Revised on: ~~February 1~~~~December 3, 2022~~~~21~~

Effective July 1, 2021, due to the Post-Pandemic Time Limit Extension from 7/1/21 through 6/30/22, staff approve TLE reviews using 'Caring for a disabled adult' (category 6) in the eJAS TLE review tool:

- All Post-Pandemic TLEs are to be approved until 6/30/22.

### *Legal References:*

- [RCW 74.08A](#)
- WAC [388-484-0005](#), [0006](#) and [0010](#)

TANF time limit policy has two separate sub-sections:

Section 3.6.1 *Time Limit Extensions* describes how to make TANF/SFA time limit extension decisions. This section includes:

- [3.6.1.1](#) What is the time limit for TANF and SFA?
- [3.6.1.2](#) What is the difference between the adult recipient and ineligible parent time limit?
- [3.6.1.3](#) What happens when an adult recipient/ineligible parent reaches 56 months on TANF/SFA?
- [3.6.1.4](#) What happens when an adult recipient/ineligible parent reaches 58 months on TANF/SFA?
- [3.6.1.5](#) What are the time limit extension categories?
- [3.6.1.6](#) How do I determine whether an ineligible parent qualifies for a disability time limit extension?
- [3.6.1.7](#) Who qualifies for the family violence time limit extension?
- [3.6.1.8](#) How do I know if an adult recipient parent qualifies for a child in dependency time limit extension?
- [3.6.1.9](#) What is the time limit hardship extension process?
- [3.6.1.10](#) What happens when an adult recipient/ineligible parent doesn't qualify for any time limit extensions?
- [3.6.1.11](#) How do I send time limit decision notices to parents?
- [3.6.1.12](#) Can a parent who was denied a time limit extension request an Administrative Hearing and receive continued benefits?
- [3.6.1.13](#) What happens when an adult recipient/ineligible parent offers more time limit extension evidence before we close their case?
- [3.6.1.14](#) What if an adult recipient/ineligible parent reapplies before their case closes?

- [3.6.1.15](#) What happens when an adult recipient/ineligible parent states they qualify for a time limit extension after we close their case?
- [3.6.1.16](#) Time Limit Participant Interview - Step-by-step guide

[Section 3.6.2](#) – *Time Limit Extension Reviews* describes how to maintain an approved TANF time limit extension case.

### 3.6.1.2 What is the difference between the adult recipient and ineligible parent time limit?

ACES uses the following definitions to track each adult's 60-month limit, list each countable month as an ineligible parent or adult recipient month and indicate whether the case is closed or extended under the adult recipient or ineligible parent time limit:

- An *adult recipient* is an adult who is receiving assistance in a TANF/SFA assistance unit. The adult recipient may be the parent or relative caregiver.
- An *ineligible parent* is a non-recipient parent who is receiving a TANF/SFA grant for their child(ren).

**Note:** Adults who qualify for state-funded cash assistance as *Survivors of Certain Crimes* are considered recipients, though may be undocumented. They receive cash assistance in a solely state-funded, SFA assistance unit. This population increments *ineligible parent months* in ACES. For more information on this population, see *EA-Z Manual: Citizenship and Immigration Status Requirements Specific to Program – Benefits for Survivors of Certain Crimes*.

The TANF/SFA months an adult recipient/ineligible parent receives for their child(ren) counts toward their 60 month limit. The assistance unit (AU) closes once an adult recipient/ineligible parent in the AU has 60 countable TANF/SFA months unless the adult qualifies for a time limit extension.

#### Examples:

- Jane received 60 months for herself and her son between 2005 and 2010. Jane's portion of the TANF grant was terminated due to a fraud conviction, but her son continued receiving TANF. Jane doesn't qualify for a time limit extension. Under the ineligible parent time limit, we close the case using the 60 adult recipient months even though Jane is no longer a recipient in the assistance unit.
- Matthew, an undocumented father, gets 40 ineligible parent months due to his daughter's TANF child-only grant. Matthew becomes a citizen (adult recipient) and is added to the TANF grant for 20 months. He doesn't qualify for a time limit extension. The AU will close using the 40 ineligible parent months plus the 20 adult recipient months.
- A mother on SSI, Leah, receives TANF for her daughter for 50 months before she gets married to Damien. Damien and daughter receive TANF for an additional 10 months. Under the ineligible parent time limit, Leah now has 60 ineligible parent months. Because Leah receives SSI, approve a disability time limit extension to keep the TANF grant open.