



1001-1 Refugee Cash Assistance

Bulletin TANF TB 59, FMA 60,	<p>DATE: May 06, 2010</p> <p>TO: All TANF Cash Assistance Policy Manual Holders</p> <p>FROM: Carol W. Carpenter, TANF Program Officer/State Refugee Coordinator</p> <p>SUBJECT: Bulletin TANF TB 59, FMA 60,</p> <p>Place this bulletin in the following manual sections: TANF 301-2 Between pages 6 & 7 TANF 1001-1 Prior to page 1 FMA 301-4 Prior to page 1</p> <p>-----</p> <p>INTRODUCTION: Under Section 8120 of Pub. L. No. 111-118, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants are now eligible for ORR (RMA, RCA, RSS/RET), TANF, SNAP and Medicaid benefits and services for the same time period as refugees, beginning on their date of entry to the U.S. or date of adjustment of status, if applying from within the U.S. for Special Immigrant Status.</p> <p>UPDATE POLICY: Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants are now eligible for benefits and services to the same extent and for the same periods of time as refugees beginning on their date of entry to the U.S. or date of adjustment of status if applying from within the U.S. for Special Immigrant Status.</p> <p>TANF Remove current #12 information and replace with the following:</p> <p>301-2; Page 7 and 8: Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) –Iraq or Afghan aliens granted special immigrant status under either the Cardin Amendment (included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (PL 110-181), enacted December 26, 2007,) or Kennedy 5000 amendment PL 119-36 enacted in June 2007; January 28, 2008 (PL 110-181) are eligible for TANF assistance for the same period of time as a refugee. (code RF on TEAMS)</p> <p>Provided that other eligibility requirements are met, SIV’s are eligible for TANF for seven years beginning on their date of entry to the U.S. or date of adjustment of status if applying from within the U.S. for Special Immigrant Status.</p> <p>NOTE: SIV’s generally enter the country with LAPR status. Since they also have</p>
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	<p>refugee status, they do not need to meet 40 quarters of work until their seven year time limit has expired.</p> <p>Document Iraqi Special Immigrant status with: Iraqi passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI1-SI3 or SQ1-SQ3; and</p> <p>DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry; or DHS Form I-551 (“green card”) showing Iraqi nationality (or Iraqi passport), with an IV code for this category SI6, SI7, SI9, SQ6, SQ7 or SQ9.</p> <p>Document Afghan Special Immigrant status with: Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI1, SI2 or SI3; and</p> <p>DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry; or DHS Form I-551 (“green card”) showing Afghan nationality (or Afghan passport), with an IV code for this category SI6, SI7 or SI9.</p> <p>TANF In the Time Limit sub-section --Remove reference to Afghan Special 1001-1 page 1 Immigrants being limited to six months of RCA (Refugee Cash Assistance) They are limited to eight months of RCA as are all refugees.</p> <p>FMA In General Rule and Extended Coverage sub sections -- Remove 301-4 page 1 reference to Afghan Special Immigrants being limited to six months of RMA (Refugee Medical Assistance). They are limited to eight months of RMA as are all refugees.</p> <p>UPDATED MANUAL MATERIAL WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNTIL THAT TIME, USE THIS BULLETIN AS A GUIDE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL POLICY SPECIALISTS.</p>
Supersedes:	FAIM 1001-1 (07/01/05) (Most of section is “new” so arrows have not been included to note changes.)
References:	45 CFR 400.60; .65-.77; .81-.83; ARM 37.74.101, .102
Overview:	<u>GENERAL RULE</u> --The Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program is a publicly administered cash assistance program available statewide for up to eight months to needy individuals who meet the status of “refugee” as defined in section TANF 1000. The program is administered with 100% federal funds without regard to race, religion, nationality, sex or political opinion.
TIME LIMIT	<p>RCA benefits are time limited for all refugee populations. See below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Refugees or SIV Iraqis- Eight months from date of entry into the United States. ○ Asylees - Eight months from the date they were granted asylum in the

	<p>United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders from Afghanistan- Six months from date of entry into the United States.
<p>RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES</p>	<p>Rights and responsibilities mirror that of the TANF program (TANF 103-3).</p> <p>Change reporting: Participants of are required to report changes in their circumstances as soon as possible but within ten (10) days of their knowledge of the change.</p> <p>Fair-hearing: The same process is used for RCA fair hearings as is used for TANF fair hearings. This includes the right to receive continued benefits pending a fair hearing as long was the time limit of eight months is not exceeded. TANF 1001-1 Section: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS Subject: Refugee Cash Assistance October 1, 2008 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BUREAU Page 2 of 8</p> <p>See TANF 1509-1 for Good Cause; TANF 1506-3 for Fair Hearing Procedure.</p>
<p>BASIC ELIGIBILITY</p>	<p>The RCA Program provides cash payments to single adults, childless couples or family units who meet all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ineligible for SSI, TANF or other federally funded cash assistance programs; 2. within the resource limitation and income standards of TANF Cash Assistance (Sections TANF 001 and TANF 401-1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ unearned income exempt from consideration includes foreign held resources and in-kind or direct cash provided by sponsors, the Department of Justice or the Department of State Reception and Placement programs. ○ Any resources remaining in the applicant’s country of origin cannot be considered in determining income eligibility. ○ A sponsor’s income and resources cannot be considered accessible to the refugee solely because the person is serving as a sponsor. (see definition of Sponsor in TANF 1000-1) 3. immigration status and identification requirements in Section TANF 1000 or are the dependent children or part of the same family unit as individuals who meet the requirements have been verified. (see section 1000-1 for definition of family unit), 4. name of the resettlement agency which resettled them has been provided; <p>Exception: Not required for SIV Refugees unless they were placed by a resettlement agency.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. not full-time students in institutions of higher education unless their full time student status is approved by the WoRC case manager as part of the individual employability plan. 6. if employable, the refugee has not, without good cause, terminated employment or refused to accept employment within 30 calendar days prior to application for assistance.
<p>NOT-APPLICABLE TANF REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>The following are differences between the TANF and RCA programs.</p> <p>MINOR CHILD: RCA Applicants/participants are not required to have minor children in the home.</p> <p>AGED OR DISABLED: RCA refugees age 65 or older or who are blind or disabled must be promptly referred to the Social Security Administration to apply for cash assistance under the SSI program. If otherwise eligible for Refugee Cash Assistance, such assistance must be provided until an SSI determination is made or until the RCA time limit has expired, whichever occurs first.</p> <p>WORK REQUIREMENTS: TANF work requirements may not apply to RCA applicants or recipients. However, RCA clients must comply with the Refugee Employment and Training (RET) requirements. See section TANF 1005.1 and information later in this manual section. Also benefits are NOT prorated from the date of enrollment in the RET program.</p> <p>PRORATION: RCA benefits are prorated from date of application not date of enrolment with RET.</p>
<p>REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING (RET) REFERRAL</p>	<p>All RCA participants age 16 and older must be referred to the Refugee Employment and Training (RET) provider.</p> <p>(RET) REFERRAL Refugee Employment and Training (RET) Program is an intensive management program with strong emphasis in work preparation with the goal of continued advancement in employment and economic self- sufficiency. See section 1005-1 for list of required activities and responsibilities</p> <p>Inability to communicate in English does not exempt a refugee from registration for employment services, participation in employability service programs, carrying out job search, or acceptance of appropriate offers of employment.</p> <p>However, the following individuals cannot be sanctioned or closed for failure to comply due to not being considered a mandatory RET participant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under age 18 and a full-time high school student or in the equivalent level of vocational or technical training expected to be completed before reaching age 19; 2. Incapacitated, ill, injured or pregnant and thus unable to participate either

	<p>temporarily or permanently in employment or training. A physician or designee must verify this information and the refugee must be participating at the level allowed by the medical verification (accommodations must be documented in case notes);</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 65 years of age or older; 4. Caring for another member of the household which requires, as determined by a physician or designee, care in the home of a substantially continuous basis and no other family member of the household is available to provide such care; or 5. Working at least 25 hours a week in unsubsidized employment.
Date Revised	October 1, 2008