SKILL MAINTENANCE CHALLENGE

CAF-SSP TANF Program   *March 2011*

1. Your TANF client, with an IA In-Gnt code, is not cooperating with pursuit of child support. The Division of Child Support (DCS) is requesting you sanction the client. You reply that you cannot because the client is an ineligible non-citizen and is not receiving TANF for herself. Is this correct?

Yes ___

No __X__ *OAR 461-120-0340 says a caretaker relative must make a good faith effort to help DHS and DCS establish paternity and support unless there is good cause for noncooperation with support. If the caretaker relative does not cooperate, and no good cause exists, a child support sanction may be applied. This is true regardless of whether the caretaker relative is coded AD, IA or NO.*

2. Your TANF client tells you there are three men who may be the father of her baby. You:

> a. Code all three alleged fathers with AF and have her complete three paternity affidavits (FLS 112).
> b. Code all three alleged fathers with UF and have her complete three paternity affidavits.
> **c. Code the man the client names as the man most likely to be the alleged father as AF and have her complete a paternity affidavit for that man. *Note: If DCS finds that this man is not the father, DCS will let the DHS worker know. The DHS worker should then: 1) change the AF coding to RE and 2) add as an AF the man the client names as the next most likely alleged father.***

3. A TANF applicant is receiving $175 in child support monthly from the absent mom of his three children. He anticipates continuing to receive this support. Because he is a TANF applicant, you code this support as:

> **a. N/R $150 DSP, $25 SUP, N/R end date = end date of the current month**
> b. N/R $25 DSP, $150 SUP, end date = C
> c. N/R $150 DSP, $25 SUP, end date = C

4. The absent mom of your TANF recipient's three children is paying $175 in child support each month to DCS. This support is anticipated to continue. You code the support as:

     a. N/R $150 DSP, $25 SUP, end date = end date of the current month
     b. N/R $150 DSP, $25 SUP, end date = C
     c. You do not code the support. The support is added by the system (without the worker entering it) as CSP $150, PSP $25.

5. DCS is requesting you sanction your client because she is not cooperating with establishment of paternity. You check BBCN and verify no father is listed for the child. You:

     a. Put the email aside because you do not like to sanction clients and are too busy anyway.

     b. Contact the client as soon as possible to: ask why the client is not cooperating; determine whether good cause exists for noncooperation; impose the sanction if appropriate; and let the DCS worker know whether you imposed a sanction or not.
     __Note:__ SSP's continuing efforts related to paternity, including imposing sanctions in a timely manner when a client is not cooperating with establishment of paternity and does not have good cause, continue to be very important in helping the state achieve the federally-mandated paternity establishment percentage of 90 percent.

     c. Impose the sanction as soon as you get DCS' request and send your client the DHS 7525 (Notice of Disqualification for Noncooperation with Child Support).

6. DCS asks you to add good cause coding for noncooperation with support to an absent parent on a TANF case. You remember policy says that good cause coding must be added to the absent parent *the same day* the request is received from DCS and you must then contact the client to determine good cause. Is this correct?

     Yes __X_ *Policy in FSM Child Support C.3 requires that coding be added the same day. Once the DHS worker has determined good cause, the DHS worker will then either leave the good cause coding and let DCS know there is good cause or remove the good cause coding and let DCS know that. The DHS worker must also narrate on TRACS whether there is good cause.*
     No ____

7. A TANF recipient tells you she has an agreement with the absent parent of her children that he will pay support to her directly so DCS does not get involved in his life. You let her know that:

> a. While she is getting TANF, her rights to support are assigned to the state, she must cooperate with child support unless she has good cause for noncooperation and support must be paid to DCS.
> b. While she is getting TANF, it is great if she continues to be paid support directly by the absent parent and it won't affect her TANF grant.
> c. While she is on TANF, child support must be paid to DCS. If the absent parent continues to pay her directly, she must turn the support over to DCS or to DHS. If she does not turn the child support over, it will be counted against her grant (and she will not receive the disregard of support she would otherwise receive). If she does not turn the child support over and does not report the support to her worker so the support may be counted against the grant, she may be liable for an overpayment.
> ***d. Both A and C. For policy on this, see FSM Child Support B.***

8. A TANF recipient who is also an absent parent is generally presumed unable to pay child support. This means, while TANF is open, DCS does not pursue support from a TANF client who is also an absent parent. Is a TANF recipient who is also an absent parent and who is in JOBS Plus presumed unable to pay child support?

> Yes ____
>
> **No __X___ *A TANF client who is also an absent parent and in JOBS Plus is required to pay child support similar to absent parents not on TANF. If the client does not pay the support, the unpaid support will accumulate as arrears.***
>
> ***Note: A TANF client who is also an <u>obligee</u> on a support order and in JOBS Plus will generally have any child support paid sent to her rather than the state retaining the support as it does for other TANF recipients.***

9. Tami is 16 years old and has a baby for whom paternity is not yet established. Tami is an AD on a TANF grant. Because Tami is receiving TANF, support must be assigned to the state. This includes support from the alleged (and absent) father of Tami's baby and support from Tami's parents. To ensure DCS pursues paternity and support from the alleged father of the baby and support from Tami's

parents (unless good cause exists), which of the following In-Gnt coding should be on the CM case:

       a. AD (Tami)
       b. CH (Tami's baby)
       c. AF (alleged father of Tami's baby)
       d. FA (Tami's father)
       e. MO (Tami's mother)
       f. All of the above

For More Information on Child Support

Oregon Administrative Rules
- 461-120-0310 (Assignment of Support Rights; Not BCCM, FS, OHP-CHP, OHP-OPP) at http://apps.state.or.us/caf/arm/A/461-120-0310.htm

- 461-120-0340 (Client Required To Help Department Obtain Support From Noncustodial Parent; TANF) at http://apps.state.or.us/caf/arm/A/461-120-0340.htm

- 461-120-0350 (Clients Excused for Good Cause from Compliance with OAR 461-120-0340 and -0345) http://apps.state.or.us/caf/arm/A/461-120-0350.htm

- 461-145-0080 (Child Support and Cash Medical Support) http://apps.state.or.us/caf/arm/A/461-145-0080.htm

Policy
- Family Services Manual, Child Support A – H

Other Resources
Pass-Through/Disregard Quick Reference Guide at http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/ss/tanf/docs/cs-pass-th-disr-qk-ref-gd.pdf

TANF Staff Tools Website Child Support Information (including how to access child support training on the DCS partner training website) at http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/ss/tanf/child-support.html

For More Information

- Amy Sevdy (amy.sevdy@state.or.us or 503-945-7017)

- Lisa Buss (lisa.buss@state.or.us or 503-945-7017)

- Carol Krager (for good cause questions) (carol.krager@state.or.us or 503-945-5931)

Thank you for taking the TANF Child Support Skill Challenge!