

## FORM ACF-202 – TANF CASELOAD REDUCTION REPORT

<b>Date of Completion: 12/31/2024</b>	
<b>State: Vermont</b>	<b>Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2025</b>
Overall Report _____ Two-parent Report <u>  X  </u> (check one)	Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? _____ yes <u>  X  </u> no
<b>PART 1 – Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005</b> (Complete this section for EACH change)	
1. Name of eligibility change: Creation of Solely Funded Programs (SSFP)	
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 1, 2007	
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:  Solely State Funded Programs (SSFP) were created to maintain policy pre-DRA. Vermont created SSFP in lieu of Separate State Programs (SSP). Cases that are included in SSFP are Post-Secondary Education, caring for a child under 2, minor parents out of compliance with TANF rules, and special needs cases in need of more than 60 months of assistance or need additional time to meet the work requirement.	
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change (attach supporting materials to this form):  Vermont uses a separate code in the mainframe to identify the number of cases in the SSFP. We took the average monthly caseload for the year.	
5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -266	

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**State: Vermont**

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1. Name of eligibility change: Vermont Time Limits
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: May 1, 2014
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

A family may not receive assistance beyond 60 months unless each participating adult is fully complying and is: deferred or participating in a State defined activity or employed. This policy also defines how months are counted: full and partial months of assistance count; certain deferments do not count toward the limit; for two-parent families time limit is based on parent with the most countable months; Reach Ahead, Reach First, and Postsecondary Education assistance do not count. The rule defines the cases in which time limits do not apply: parents under 18 (both parents in two-parent family must 18 to count) and child-only grants. A family may also come back on Reach Up after 2 months of closure as long as they are complying (stated above).

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:  
(attach supporting materials to this form)

Vermont uses a counter field to count the months of participation and separate codes in the mainframe to identify a case closure due to the time limits. We used the impact table in the attached spreadsheet. We know how many cases close each month and from caseload analysis know that 60% of those that close for time limits do not come back into the caseload. We assumed that 15% of the caseload would leave naturally for the first four months thereafter. After the four months we assumed that 7% would leave each month anyway.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -3

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1. Name of eligibility change: Reach Ahead
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: July 1, 2009
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

Vermont created the Reach Ahead Program to help families transition from Vermont's Reach Up or Postsecondary Education (PSE) program to work. A family who was once on Reach Up but now is closed, working, and meeting the work requirement are given a monetary benefit and a childcare subsidy for up to two years.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:  
(attach supporting materials to this form)

Our eligibility system has a specific code for these Reach Ahead cases for which we tabulate to get the monthly impact of the change.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 112

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1. Name of eligibility change: Basic Needs and Shelter Disregard

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 1, 2021

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

The Reach Up program uses a “basic needs” standard which is tied to the Consumer Price Index to determine financial eligibility for the program. The eligibility limit is the maximum grant available if no income were in the household. If the family has more net income than the maximum grant for their family size and housing situation, they are not eligible for Reach Up. In August 2021 the maximum grant increased, which meant that more families were eligible for Reach Up than previously.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:  
(attach supporting materials to this form)

For this calculation, we ran a report from our system that gave us the avg # per month of eligible cases in FFY23 that would not have been eligible for reach up in 2005 due to their income threshold but were eligible in FFY23 due to the Basic Needs and Housing Disregard increase.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 11