



Minnesota Family Investment Program

The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) is Minnesota's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The Minnesota Family Investment Program helps families with children by offering cash and food benefits with employment services. Families usually receive benefits on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.

Families who have not received program assistance in the last 12 months may be enrolled in the Diversionary Work Program.

The Minnesota Family Investment Program is about work

If you are pregnant or a parent of minor children and receiving assistance, you are required to go back to work as soon as possible, actively look for work or take part in activities to prepare for work.

To support you while you work, you may be eligible for health care coverage and subsidies to help pay for child care.

You will get help finding and keeping a job

- Most participants will work with a job counselor to develop an employment plan.
- If you are under age 20 and have not completed high school, you may need to complete your education. Your job counselor or social worker will help you make a plan to complete your education or to work.
- You may be able to pursue English as a Second Language, a General Education Development (GED) diploma or certificate, or post-secondary education.

You can combine work income and assistance

Assistance may not end when you find employment. If you work, but earn low wages, you may still qualify for child care assistance, food benefits and health care coverage.

- Not all of your earnings are counted. Your eligibility worker can explain more.
- Each month, for families that receive child support, up to \$100 for one child or up to \$200 for two or more children will not be counted as income.
- You can build up your savings once you are receiving assistance through the program. You are allowed up to \$10,000 in total assets. Your eligibility worker can give you more information on what assets are counted.
- We do not count one vehicle per member of the family who is 16 years old or older. We do count additional vehicles as part of the \$10,000 asset limit.

The program can add money to your monthly income

Example: If you are a single parent with two children, are not working, and meet all program requirements, you will receive \$985 a month in combined cash and food benefits. If you find a full-time job that pays \$9.65 an hour, you will earn \$1,673 a month. With that income, you would still receive cash and food benefits, and both would total \$1,953 a month. That is \$968 more each month than the benefits you receive when not working.

You can increase your family's income even more with tax credits — money you receive if you work but do not earn enough to owe taxes. Tax credits include the Earned Income Tax Credit, Working Family Credit, Minnesota Child and Dependent Care Credit, K-12 Education Subtraction and Credit, and the Property Tax Refund. You can receive a referral for a tax preparer from your county worker.

You can receive free help filling out tax forms from Feb. 1 through April 15. For an up-to-date listing of locations around Minnesota, call 651-297-3724 or 800-657-3989 after Feb. 1.

Penalties for not working

If you do not follow work rules, you will lose part or all of your assistance.

- The first month your assistance will be reduced by 10 percent.
- The second through sixth months, your assistance will be reduced by 30 percent.
- In the seventh month that you do not comply or follow the rules, your assistance will be closed.

If you have a newborn, you may be exempt from work rules. If you are struggling with a serious physical or mental illness, violence in your family or other challenges, you may be eligible for a part of the Minnesota Family Investment Program that offers more flexibility in what activities you can choose.

Time limits

Most parents with minor children only receive cash help for a total of 60 months (five years) in a lifetime. You can stop the 60-month time clock by:

- Choosing not to receive the cash part of the Minnesota Family Investment Program grant
- and**
- Choosing not to receive the \$110 housing grant.

Ask your county worker about state residency, reporting and verification rules to maintain your program eligibility.

Your right to privacy

Most of the time, the information we ask about you and your family is private. This means you may see the information, but we cannot share that information with the public.

Other government agencies may see this information too. You have the right to question what

is in your file. For more information, see the full Notice of Privacy Practices online at <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-3979-ENG>.

Apply

- Online at ApplyMN.dhs.mn.gov
- On paper using the Combined Application Form (DHS-5223)

Or contact your local county human services agency to receive an application or for help completing it.

If you have questions

For questions about the Minnesota Family Investment Program, contact the human services office in your county.

For TTY service, use your preferred relay service provider.

Cash on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card is provided to help families and individuals meet their basic needs. These basic needs include food, shelter, clothing, utilities and transportation. These funds are given until families and individuals can support themselves. It is illegal for an EBT user to buy or attempt to buy tobacco products or alcoholic beverages with the EBT card. If you do, it is fraud and you will be removed from the program. Do not use an EBT card at a gambling establishment or retail establishment in which performers disrobe or perform in an unclothed state for entertainment.

(agency)

Civil Rights Notice

Discrimination is against the law. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) does not discriminate on the basis of any of the following:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ race | ■ creed | ■ public assistance status | ■ disability |
| ■ color | ■ religion | ■ marital status | ■ sex |
| ■ national origin | ■ sexual orientation | ■ age | ■ political beliefs |

Civil Rights Complaints

You have the right to file a discrimination complaint if you believe you were treated in a discriminatory way by a human services agency.

Contact **DHS** directly only if you have a discrimination complaint:

Civil Rights Coordinator
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Equal Opportunity and Access Division
P.O. Box 64997
St. Paul, MN 55164-0997
651-431-3040 (voice) or use your preferred relay service

Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR)

- In Minnesota, you have the right to file a complaint with the MDHR if you believe you have been discriminated against because of any of the following:
 - race
 - color
 - national origin
 - religion
 - creed
 - sex
 - sexual orientation
 - marital status
 - public assistance status
 - disability

Contact the **MDHR** directly to file a complaint:

Minnesota Department of Human Rights
Freeman Building, 625 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-539-1100 (voice)
800-657-3704 (toll free)
711 or 800-627-3529 (MN Relay)
651-296-9042 (fax)
Info.MDHR@state.mn.us (email)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

You have the right to file a complaint with the OCR, a federal agency, if you believe you have been discriminated against because of any of the following:

- race
- color
- national origin
- age
- disability
- sex
- religion

Contact the **OCR** directly to file a complaint:

Director, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights
200 Independence Avenue SW, Room 509F
HHH Building
Washington, DC 20201
800-368-1019 (voice) 800-537-7697 (TDD)
Complaint Portal: <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

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ملاحظة: إذا أردت مساعدة مجانية لترجمة هذه الوثيقة، اطلب ذلك من مشرفك أو اتصل على الرقم 1-800-358-0377.

သတိ။ ဤစာရွက်စာတမ်းအားအခမဲ့ဘာသာပြန်ပေးခြင်း အကူအညီလိုအပ်ပါက၊ သင့်လူမှုရေးအလုပ်သမား အားမေးမြန်း ခြင်းသို့ မဟုတ် 1-844-217-3563 ကိုခေါ်ဆိုပါ။

កំណត់សំគាល់ ។ បើអ្នកត្រូវការជំនួយក្នុងការបកប្រែឯកសារនេះដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ សូមសួរអ្នកកាន់សំណុំរឿង របស់អ្នក ឬហៅទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 1-888-468-3787 ។

請注意，如果您需要免費協助傳譯這份文件，請告訴您的工作人員或撥打1-844-217-3564。

Attention. Si vous avez besoin d'une aide gratuite pour interpréter le présent document, demandez à votre agent chargé du traitement de cas ou appelez le 1-844-217-3548.

Thov ua twb zoo nyeem. Yog hais tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus rau tsab ntaub ntawv no pub dawb, ces nug koj tus neeg lis dej num los sis hu rau 1-888-486-8377.

ဟ်သ့ဟ်သးဘဉ်တက့ၢ်. ဝဲန့ၢ်လိာ်ဘဉ်တၢ်မၤစၢၤကလိလၢတၢ်ကကျိးဝဲဝဲဒၣ်လိာ် တီလိာ်မိတခါအံၤန့ၢ်,သံကွၢ်ဘဉ်ပုၤတုၢ်ဝိအပုၤမၤစၢၤတၢ်လၢန့ၢ်မ့တ မ့ၢ်ကိးဘဉ် 1-844-217-3549 တက့ၢ်.

알려드립니다. 이 문서에 대한 이해를 돕기 위해 무료로 제공되는 도움을 받으시려면 담당자에게 문의하시거나 1-844-217-3565으로 연락하십시오.

ໄປຣດຊາບ. ຖ້າຫາກ ທ່ານຕ້ອງການການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອໃນການແປເອກະສານນີ້ພຣີ, ຈົ່ງຖາມພະນັກງານກຳກັບການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອຂອງທ່ານ ຫຼື ໂທໂປທີ່ 1-888-487-8251.

Hubachiisa. Dokumentiin kun tola akka siif hiikamu gargaarsa hoo feete, hojjettoota kee gaafadhu ykn afaan ati dubbattuuf bilbili 1-888-234-3798.

Внимание: если вам нужна бесплатная помощь в устном переводе данного документа, обратитесь к своему социальному работнику или позвоните по телефону 1-888-562-5877.

Digniin. Haddii aad u baahantahay caawimaad lacag-la'aan ah ee tarjumaadda qoraalkan, hawlwadeenkaaga weydiiso ama wac lambarka 1-888-547-8829.

Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para interpretar este documento, comuníquese con su trabajador o llame al 1-888-428-3438.

Chú ý. Nếu quý vị cần được giúp đỡ dịch tài liệu này miễn phí, xin gọi nhân viên xã hội của quý vị hoặc gọi số 1-888-554-8759.

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For accessible formats of this information, ask your county worker. For assistance with additional equal access to human services, contact your county's ADA coordinator. ADA4 (2-18)