F. Teen Parent Services

### INTENT

The intent of services to parents under age 20 is to use partners to help them develop successful parenting and other life skills and complete their secondary education, preferably with a high school diploma, so that they can successfully move on to employment.

### Expectations:

- Plan for a high school diploma or GED completion as the preferred outcome for teen parents;
- Support teen parents already enrolled in high school or GED program so that they can continue to attend and receive a diploma;
- Include male responsibility messages regarding pregnancy prevention in case management;
- Plan for basic education services for teen parents who cannot realistically attend high school and complete a diploma;
- Brokering for basic education services tailored to meet individual needs and issues that integrate academic and life skills instruction whenever possible;
- Brokering for parent training and counseling programs that meet the unique needs of the teen parents.

### Services:

Teen parent services include High School (HS) and GED completion. Support service payments may be provided to enable teens to participate in services. In most branches, the Department of Human Services (DHS) and partners offer child care onsite or near education services.

1. **High school completion**

Type of service: High school or GED completion services range from attendance in regular high school classes with case management support from DHS, to special programs offering a high school diploma for teen parents with onsite child care and case management services, depending on the district plan.

Selection criteria: Teen parents appropriate for high school or GED completion include those who are under age 20 and do not have diploma or GED, and are already enrolled
in high school, those with enough high school credits to graduate in a reasonable amount of time and those able to return to a high school program that meets their needs. Also to be considered is whether their employment and future training goals require a diploma.

Teen parents under 18 who have been excused from compulsory school attendance by their school district, and those age 18 and 19, can participate in employment training rather than education activities, under the following conditions:

- For those under 18, their employment goal does not require a high school diploma or GED, has a labor market demand, is reasonable and appropriate, and can lead to self-sufficiency and the training activity has an education component resulting in a literacy level of at least grade 8.9;
- For those 18 and 19, the employment training will prepare them for a job with a labor market demand and they have failed to make progress in education activities, or education activities are deemed inappropriate for their education and employment goals.

### Education Requirements for Teen Parents; JOBS Rule

**461-190-0171** — Education Requirements for Teen Parents; JOBS

**Counting hours of participation:** High school or GED completion may include supervised study as reported by the educational provider on the *Education or Training Attendance Report* (**DHS 7861**). Attendance must be documented in writing and maintained in the client’s DHS or contractor case file, or in a central file, and include:

- A weekly itemization of school participation (for example: 20 hours of class time and homework for the week beginning Monday, June 1);
- Verification that the client’s activities were supervised on a daily basis;
- Client’s name;
- Actual hours of class time, supervised homework and other countable educational activities;
- Name of the school;
- Name and phone number of person verifying attendance hours.

**JOBS tracking and data entry:** Attendance information should be entered by deadlines by branch or contractor staff, depending on district plan, for the HS activity. Grade level attainment should also be entered on the JOBS and CMS data systems in a timely manner. GED test scores should also be entered on the JOBS and Client Maintenance (CM) data systems in a timely manner. Good cause determinations for noncooperation must be done immediately and recorded in TRACS and JAS.
2. Basic education

Type of service: Basic education services are similar to those for adults which provide remedial education for clients without a high school diploma or GED that is related to a specific occupation.

Selection criteria: Teen parents appropriate for basic education include those 20 and under without a diploma or GED, who do not have enough high school credits to complete a diploma in a reasonable amount of time or are not able to be served by a high school credit program that meets their needs, and whose short-term employment goal does not require a diploma.

Education Requirements for Teen Parents; JOBS Rule

| 461-190-0171 | Education Requirements for Teen Parents; JOBS |

Counting hours of participation: Hours spent in this activity must be documented in writing and maintained in the client’s DHS or contractor case file, or in a central file, and include:

- A daily itemization of actual hours of participation (for example: four hours of life skills class time and homework for the week beginning Monday, June 1);
- Verification that the client’s activities were supervised on a daily basis;
- Client’s name;
- Name of the organization providing the service;
- Name and phone number of person verifying attendance hours.

JOBS tracking and data entry: BASIS test scores should also be entered on the JOBS and CMS data systems in a timely manner. The AB activity code can be used to track and record time spent in this type of activity.

Case Plan Activities and Standards for Support Service Payments; JOBS, Post-TANF, Pre-TANF, REF, SFPSS, TA-DVS, TANF Rule

| 461-190-0211 | Case Plan Activities and Standards for Support Service Payments; JOBS, Post-TANF, Pre-TANF, REF, SFPSS, TA-DVS, TANF |

3. Life Skills

Type of service: Life Skills services are integrated into classroom activities for most teen parent high school and basic education components. Most programs provide access to and presentations from local resources for health, child development, parenting,
nutrition and household management services. Some programs also offer job readiness and career exploration services.

Selection criteria: All teen parents are assessed for their level of life skills, and receive Life Skills integrated with high school completion and basic education services.

Counting hours of participation: If the activities are integrated as part of the high school curriculum, attendance should be tracked as HS activities. They must be documented in writing and maintained in the client’s DHS or contractor case file, or in a central file, and include:

- A daily itemization of actual hours of participation (for example: four hours of life skills class time and homework for the week beginning Monday, June 1);
- Verification that the client’s activities were supervised on a daily basis;
- Client’s name;
- Name of the life skills organization providing the service;
- Name and phone number of person verifying attendance hours.

JOBS tracking and data entry: The LS activity code can be used to track and record time spent in this type of activity. If the life skills activities are integrated as part of the high school curriculum, attendance should be entered for the HS activity.

Case Plan Activities and Standards for Support Service Payments; JOBS, Post-TANF, Pre-TANF, REF, SFPSS, TA-DVS, TANF Rule

461-190-0211 — Case Plan Activities and Standards for Support Service Payments; JOBS, Post-TANF, Pre-TANF, REF, SFPSS, TA-DVS, TANF

4. Teen parent counseling

Type of service: This service varies depending on the local district plan. (This activity is not currently available as a contracted activity.)

Selection criteria: Teen parents appropriate for teen parent counseling services include those whose parenting and counseling needs as identified in initial and ongoing assessment are not being met by other JOBS services.

Counting hours of participation: Teen parent counseling group and individual time is recorded and reported by the activity provider. There is no current attendance tracking requirement for teen parent counseling activities.

JOBS tracking and data entry: The TP activity code is not currently available.
5. Other teen parent services in the community

My Future – My Choice: A comprehensive program that has two delivery components to strategically provide curriculum to prevent teen pregnancies. The first half is led by training high school peer educators and uses a skills-based best-practice model. The second half is provided by an adult instructor to develop teen understanding of physiological processes and maturation.

Students Today Aren’t Ready for Sex (STARS): Programs offering abstinence-based education and pregnancy prevention information and activities, primarily targeted for middle-school-aged youth.

Local health departments: Education and services for healthy child development, pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention, maternity case management and other public health services for teens and their children.

Other local coalitions: Other coalitions of service providers, and other interested partners and individuals, who ensure that the community develops comprehensive strategies to prevent juvenile crime and substance abuse.
This page intentionally left blank.