



PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SSP 36-2026

CHAPTER 461

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

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FILING CAPTION: Changes to TANF Support Services, SNAP Interviews, and Asset Transfer Disqualification Terminology

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RULES:

461-001-0025, 461-115-0230, 461-140-0250, 461-140-0260, 461-140-0270, 461-190-0211

AMEND: 461-001-0025

REPEAL: Temporary 461-001-0025 from SSP 28-2026

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-001-0025 is being amended to add the definition of "12-month rolling period."

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-001-0025

Definitions of Terms, Components, and Activities; JOBS, Pre-TANF, TANF ¶¶

In the ~~JOBS, Pre-TANF, and Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS), Pre-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Pre-TANF), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)~~ programs, the following definitions apply to rules in OAR chapter 461 unless the context indicates otherwise.¶¶

- (1) "12-month rolling period" means the 12-month period preceding the date of the current support services (see section (38) of this rule) payment request, used to determine whether applicable maximum payment limits have been met.¶
- (2) "Activity" means an action or set of actions to be taken by a participant, as specified in the case plan (see section (67) of this rule). An "activity" is intended to reduce barriers and:¶
- (a) Increase the likelihood of self-sufficiency, employment, job retention, wage enhancement, and financial independence; or¶
 - (b) Promote family stability (see OAR 461-001-0000).¶
- (23) "Adult Basic Education" means an activity (see section (42) of this rule) in the basic education (see section (56) of this rule) component (see section (910) of this rule) that involves remedial education coursework intended to ensure functional literacy and numeracy.¶
- (34) "Assessment" means an activity of the program entry (see section (301) of this rule) component that involves gathering information to identify the strengths, interests, family circumstances, status in the JOBS program, and vocational aptitudes and preferences of the participant and to mutually determine an employment goal, the level of engagement of the participant in the JOBS program, and which support services (see section (378) of this rule) are needed. This activity includes providing screenings and evaluations (if appropriate) to determine the level of engagement, accommodation, and modification for the participant in the JOBS program. The screenings include, but are not limited to, physical and mental health needs, substance use, domestic violence (see OAR 461-001-0000), and learning needs.¶
- (45) "Barrier" means a personal condition or circumstance that reduces the likelihood the participant will become employed or the ability of the participant to engage in an activity listed in the case plan.¶
- (56) "Basic education" means a component intended to ensure functional literacy for all JOBS participants. "Basic education" activities are high school attendance, English language learner (see section (156) of this rule) instruction, job skills training (see section (242) of this rule), adult basic education (see section (23) of this rule) instruction, and services that result in obtaining a general equivalency diploma (GED). The component is discussed in OAR 461-190-0171 and 461-190-0181.¶
- (67) "Case plan" (also known as a personal development plan) means a written outline, developed in partnership by the participant and family coach, with input from community partners as appropriate, listing activities and goals for the individual. The "case plan" also identifies the support service payments, accommodations, and modifications to help the participant complete the plan. The DHS 1543 - Domestic Violence Assistance Agreement - is the "case plan" for participants with safety concerns about domestic violence.¶
- (78) "Child activities" means an activity that enables participants to gain skills in successful parenting, balancing work and family, and contributing to the well-being and health of the child (see OAR 461-001-0000).¶
- (89) "Community service program" means an activity in the unpaid employment (see section (401) of this rule) component in which the participant works without pay at a job site to enhance the likelihood the participant will become employed and perform work for the direct benefit of the community. This activity is available through nonprofit organizations or public agencies.¶
- (910) "Component" means a set of one or more activities of the JOBS program including paid unsubsidized employment (see section (2930) of this rule), paid subsidized employment (see section (289) of this rule), unpaid employment, vocational training (see section (442) of this rule), job search and readiness (see section (201) of this rule), and basic education activities.¶
- (101) "Core activities" means federally defined countable work activities including paid unsubsidized employment; paid subsidized employment; work experience (see section (423) of this rule); job search and readiness; community service program (see section (89) of this rule); supported work (see section (389) of this rule); and vocational training.¶
- (142) "Crisis intervention" means short-term services to protect family stability and safety due to an immediate crisis need.¶
- (123) "Drug and alcohol services" means an activity in the job search and readiness component to help participants identify and overcome addiction and substance use disorders that prevent or limit their employability and self-sufficiency.¶
- (134) "Employer contact" means participant communication with an employer or employer's representative through a visit, phone call, or mail to request consideration for employment.¶
- (145) "Employment Payments" means three transitional payments totaling \$225.00 paid as provided in OAR 461-135-1270 to a benefit group (see OAR 461-110-0750) with employment income to help transition families off TANF program services.¶
- (156) "English Language Learner" (also known as English as a Second Language) means an activity in the basic education component. English Language Learner classes are designed to give participants with limited English proficiency better working skills in the language.¶
- (167) "Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)" means the law that applies to subject employers with participants working

in the unpaid employment component. "FLSA" requires that participants engaged in unpaid employment, in effect, may not work more hours than the combined value of the TANF and SNAP benefits divided by Oregon minimum wage.¶

(178) "Federally required participation rates" means the participation rates required by section 407 of the Social Security Act (42 USC 607).¶

(182) "High School or GED Completion Attendance" means an activity in the basic education component that involves attendance at a secondary school or in a course of study that leads to the completion of the GED.¶

(1920) "Job search" means an activity in the job search and readiness component that focuses on participants looking for and obtaining employment designed to improve skills in locating and competing for employment in the local labor market and may include writing resumes, receiving instruction in interviewing skills, and engaging in group and individual "job search". There are two categories of "job search": "initial job search" and "regular job search". "Initial job search" may occur during the Pre-TANF program. "Regular job search" begins not later than the day after the Department finds the individual eligible for TANF benefits.¶

(201) "Job search and readiness" means a component designed to prepare participants to compete in the local labor market. Job search (see section (1920) of this rule), life skills (see section (234) of this rule), drug and alcohol services (see section (123) of this rule), mental health services (see section (256) of this rule), and rehabilitation activities (see section (323) of this rule) are the activities of the "job search and readiness" component.¶

(212) "Job skills training" means an activity in the basic education component in which unpaid training required by an employer is needed to gain the skills necessary to be hired, retain or advance in employment.¶

(223) "JOBS Plus program" means an activity in the paid subsidized employment component that provides TANF participants with employment. The participant receives their TANF and SNAP benefits as wages from the JOBS Plus employer (see OAR 461-190-0401 to 461-190-0426).¶

(234) "Life skills" means an activity of the job search and readiness component. The activity develops employment-preparation skills and skills and attitudes that are commonly found in the workplace; and offer development of skills that prepare participants to be successful in daily living.¶

(245) "Medical Related Services" means activities to assess and address health concerns that prevent or limit employment and self-sufficiency.¶

(256) "Mental health services" means an activity in the job search and readiness component that provides mental health screenings and assessments, counseling, medication management, and support groups.¶

(267) "Non-core activities" means federally defined countable work activities that include job skills training directly related to employment; education directly related to employment; and satisfactory school attendance at a secondary level or leading to a GED.¶

(278) "On-the-Job Training" means an activity for paid employees who are in non-JOBS Plus subsidized employment placement, or for students who are in an unpaid internship or a federal/state funded work study position.¶

(282) "Paid subsidized employment" means a component in which participants are employed in a subsidized public or private sector job. JOBS Plus program (see section (223) of this rule) and on-the-job training (see section (278) of this rule) are the activities in the "paid subsidized employment" component.¶

(2930) "Paid unsubsidized employment" means a component in which participants are employed full- or part-time in an unsubsidized job and receiving TANF benefits. Unsubsidized employment is a job that is not subsidized by TANF or any other public program. Working (see section (423) of this rule) is the activity in the paid unsubsidized employment component.¶

(301) "Program entry" means an activity that captures JOBS appointments, assessments (see section (34) of this rule) to identify a family's needs and strengths, determines JOBS status, and mutually develops a case plan.¶

(312) "Progress (good or satisfactory)" means a participant engaging in an education or training activity makes "good progress" or "satisfactory progress" by receiving a passing grade and progressing toward completion of their course of study at no less than the normal rate of a half-time student.¶

(323) "Rehabilitation activities" means an activity in the job search and readiness component that provides medical or therapeutic screenings, assessments, and treatment. This activity also includes medical management and support groups.¶

(334) "Self-initiated training" means an activity in which participants are enrolled in a two or four year program, earning credit toward an undergraduate college degree.¶

(345) "Social Security application" means the activities associated with the process for individuals who are applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).¶

(356) "Stabilized living" means an activity intended to stabilize participant housing concerns that prevent or limit employment or self-sufficiency.¶

(367) "Stabilization, intervention, and other activities" means activities that are non-countable for federal participation purposes including child health and development, crisis intervention (see section (142) of this rule), domestic violence services, medical related services (see section (245) of this rule), retention services, services to

child welfare families, social security application (see section (345) of this rule), and stabilized living services (see section (356) of this rule).¶¶

(378) "Support services" means services that participants need to engage successfully in activities outlined in their case plan, seek and maintain employment, or remove barriers.¶¶

(389) "Supported work" means an activity in the unpaid employment component that gives participants intensive staff support, skill training, intervention, and counseling that will enable them to function independently at work.¶¶

(3940) "Transition services" means services offered when the participant becomes employed or becomes ineligible for cash benefits because of an increase in income or resources.¶¶

(401) "Unpaid employment" means a component in which a participant is placed in an unpaid job to develop good work habits, training, and knowledge to obtain employment. Employment may be in the private or public sector or through a work simulation program. Work experience (see section (423) of this rule), community service program, and supported work (see section (389) of this rule) are the activities of the "unpaid employment" component.¶¶

(442) "Vocational training" means an activity and component of the JOBS program that provides JOBS participants with up to 18 months access to specific "vocational training" that will lead to a career with an appropriate wage level and opportunity for employment.¶¶

(423) "Work experience" means an activity in the unpaid employment component in which the participant works without pay at a job site to develop good work habits and basic vocational skills that enhance the likelihood the participant will become employed. "Work experience" is available through private for-profit businesses, nonprofit organizations, or public agencies.¶¶

(434) "Working" means an activity in the unsubsidized employment component in which a participant is working full- or part-time in the public or private sector.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 409.050, 411.060, 411.070, 411.878, 412.006, 412.009, 412.016, 412.049

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 409.010, 409.050, 411.060, 411.070, 411.878, 412.001, 412.006, 412.016, 412.009, 412.049

AMEND: 461-115-0230

REPEAL: Temporary 461-115-0230 from SSP 27-2026

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-115-0230 is being amended to reinstate interviews for households who are eligible for and have a 24-month certification period in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). A rule reference for a defined term is also added to subsection (4)(c).

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-115-0230

Interviews ¶¶

(1) In the Refugee Assistance (REF), Refugee Assistance Medical (REFM), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs,¶¶

(a) An interview with an adult in the filing group (see OAR 461-110-0330 and OAR 461-110-0430) or the authorized representative (OAR 461-115-0090) of the filing group is required at initial application and renewal of benefits.¶¶

(b) An interview may be conducted via phone, office visit or offsite location. ¶¶

(c) A face-to-face interview must be granted at the applicant's request.¶¶

(2) For the purposes of this rule, "hardship" includes, but is not limited to:¶¶

(a) Care of a household member;¶¶

(b) An individual's age, disability (see OAR 461-001-0000), or illness;¶¶

(c) A commute of more than two hours from the individual's residence to the nearest branch office (see OAR 461-001-0000);¶¶

(d) A conflict between the individual's work or training schedule and the business hours of the branch office; and¶¶

(e) Transportation difficulties due to prolonged severe weather or financial hardship.¶¶

(3) In the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):¶¶

(a) An interview must be scheduled so that the filing group (see OAR 461-110-0370) has at least ~~ten~~10 days to provide any needed verification before the deadline under OAR 461-115-0210.¶¶

(b) A face-to-face interview must be granted at the applicant's request.¶¶

(c) When an applicant misses the first scheduled interview appointment, the Department must inform the applicant by notice of the missed interview.¶¶

(d) An applicant who fails to attend a scheduled interview must contact the Department no later than 30 days following the filing date (OAR 461-115-0040) to be eligible for benefits.¶¶

(e) ~~Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a~~An adult (see OAR 461-001-0015) or primary person (see OAR 461-001-0015) in the filing group, an adult or primary person excluded from the filing group under OAR 461-110-0370(8)(b), or the authorized representative (see OAR 461-001-0000, 461-115-0090, and 461-135-0510) of the filing group is interviewed ~~at:~~¶¶

~~(A) Once every 12 months.¶¶~~

~~(B) At:~~¶¶

~~(B) Once every 24 months if the filing group who~~qualifies for and has a 24-month certification period (see OAR 461-001-0000) under OAR 461-115-0450 ~~does not need an interview for redetermination when:~~¶¶

~~(A) The filing date is established during their certification period, or~~¶¶

~~(B) The filing date is established within 30 days after the end of their certification period.¶¶~~

(4) In the Oregon Supplemental Income Program Medical (OSIPM) program, the Department must complete an interview at the following times:¶¶

(a) At initial application or evaluation for OSIPM, not including individuals who are assumed eligible (see OAR 461-135-0010). The interview can be completed with any individual authorized to sign the application under OAR 461-115-0071(3).¶¶

(b) At renewal, not including individuals who are assumed eligible. The interview requirement shall be waived at renewal if the individual is unable to complete the interview due to incapacity and an authorized representative has not been designated.¶¶

(c) When any single individual in a nonstandard living arrangement (see OAR 461-001-0000) becomes legally married (see OAR 461-001-0000), including individuals who are assumed eligible.¶¶

(5) In the Qualified Disabled and Working Individual (QDWI) program, an interview is required at initial application and renewal.¶¶

(6) In the Temporary Assistance for Domestic Violence Survivors (TA-DVS) program, the Department will conduct a required face-to-face interview with the survivor, unless there is a safety concern related to the domestic violence (see OAR 461-001-0000) situation or there is a hardship. An interview due to safety concern or hardship may be completed via phone, home visit, or offsite appointment.¶¶

(7) Individuals applying for long-term services and supports, including individuals receiving Health Systems Division (HSD) medical programs (see OAR 461-001-0000) and individuals who are assumed eligible, are required to complete an interview at initial application. The services subject to this rule section include:¶¶

(a) Nursing facility services (see division 070 of OAR chapter 411).¶¶

(b) Home and community-based care (see OAR 461-001-0030(4)), including 1915(k) Community First Choice services (see OAR 411-004-0010(6)(a)(C)).

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 411.060, 411.404, 411.706, 411.816, 412.049, 414.826, 414.839, ORS 409.050

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 411.060, 411.404, 411.706, 411.816, 412.049, 414.826, 414.839, ORS 409.050, ORS 409.010, 411.070, 414.025, 414.231, 412.072, 42 CFR 435.909, 7 CFR 273.2, 45 CFR 400

AMEND: 461-140-0250

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-140-0250 is being amended to reflect the labels added to the existing two-step disqualifying transfer of assets calculation displayed in the ONE system. These are clarifying changes only and do not affect an individual's benefits, eligibility, or whether they are subject to a disqualification due to a transfer of assets.

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-140-0250

Determining The Uncompensated Value of a Transferred Asset ¶¶

(1) The uncompensated value of a disqualifying transfer of an asset is used in OAR 461-140-0260 to 461-140-0300 to calculate the ineligibility period of the financial group (see OAR 461-110-0530).¶¶

(2) To determine uncompensated value:¶¶

(a) For individuals applying for or receiving Department-paid nursing facility services or home and community-based care (see OAR 461-001-0000):¶¶

(A) The value of the compensation received for the asset is subtracted from the fair market value (see OAR 461-001-0000) of the asset. ¶¶

(i) For transfers made on or after the date of request for nursing facility services or home and community-based care, this result is the uncompensated value.¶¶

(ii) For transfers made before the date of request for nursing facility services or home and community-based care (see OAR 461-001-0030), this result is the uncompensated value unless the financial group had countable (see OAR 461-001-0000) resources of less than the resource limit at the time of the first transfer. If the financial group had countable resources of less than the resource limit in OAR 461-160-0015 at the time of the first transfer, the remainder (the resource limit minus the countable resources) is then credited by adding it to the other compensation received for the asset. ¶¶

(B) For an annuity, unless the individual verifies a lesser amount, the fair market value is equal to the amount of money used to establish the annuity, plus any additional payments used to fund the annuity, plus any earnings, minus any regular monthly payments already received, minus early withdrawals, and minus any surrender fees.¶¶

(C) The value of the compensation received for an asset to which an individual is entitled and chooses to pursue (see OAR 461-140-0242) includes the amount received plus the costs associated with obtaining the asset, such as a personal injury attorney's contingency fee.¶¶

(b) In all other programs, the value of the compensation received for the resource is subtracted from the fair market value of the resource. The remainder, called the uncompensated amount, is added to the other countable resources at the time of the transfer. The amount by which the sum exceeds the resource limit is the ~~uncompensated value~~ disqualifying amount.¶¶

(c) The compensation received for a transferred asset includes all of the following;¶¶

(A) Encumbrances assumed by the buyer or otherwise discharged as a result of the transfer;¶¶

(B) Any costs associated with the transfer, including but not limited to negotiated closing costs, escrow fees, and title fees; and¶¶

(C) Goods or services provided to the individual, limited to their true value, if there was a prior agreement to exchange the asset for the goods or services.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 409.050, 411.060, 411.070, 411.404, 411.706, 411.816, 412.049, 413.085, 414.685

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 409.010, 409.050, 410.020, 411.060, 411.070, 411.404, 411.632, 411.706, 411.816, 412.049, 413.085, 414.685, 414.839

AMEND: 461-140-0260

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-140-0260 is being amended to align the rule with the label added to the existing two-step disqualifying transfer of assets calculation displayed in the ONE system. This is a clarifying change only and does not affect an individual's benefits, eligibility, or whether they are subject to a disqualification due to a transfer of assets.

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-140-0260

Disqualification Due to a Resource Transfer; SNAP ¶

In the ~~SNAP program~~ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):¶

(1) A financial group disqualified due to the transfer of a resource (described in OAR 461-140-0210 or 461-140-0220) is disqualified from receiving benefits starting on the date of the denial of benefits or on the effective date of the closure. The disqualification applies to each individual in the financial group during the month that the disqualifying transfer of resources occurred.¶

(2) The duration of the disqualification is based on the ~~amount of uncompensated value~~ disqualifying amount (see OAR 461-140-0250) as provided in the following chart: ~~[Table not included. See ED. NOTE.]¶~~

~~[ED. NOTE: Tables referenced are available from the agency table: [See Attached Table]~~

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 411.816

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 411.816

RULE ATTACHMENTS MAY NOT SHOW CHANGES. PLEASE CONTACT AGENCY REGARDING CHANGES.

NOTE: Attachments referenced are attached to this document. You may view the attachment 461-140-0260.pdf from the Attachments panel. Alternately, you may view the attachments at the following link:

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action?ruleVrsnRsn=338641>

AMEND: 461-140-0270

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-140-0270 is being amended to reflect the label added to the existing two-step disqualifying transfer of assets calculation displayed in the ONE system. This is a clarifying change only and does not affect an individual's benefits, eligibility, or whether they are subject to a disqualification due to a transfer of assets.

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-140-0270

Disqualification Due to An Asset Transfer; REF, REFM, TANF ¶

In the Refugee (REF), Refugee Medical (REFM), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs:¶

(1) A financial group (see OAR 461-110-0530) in which a member is disqualified due to the transfer of an asset is disqualified for the number of months equal to the ~~uncompensated value~~ disqualifying amount (see OAR 461-140-0250) divided by the TANF payment standard (see OAR 461-155-0030).¶

(2) The disqualification period starts the date the Department imposes the disqualification by terminating benefits for the period calculated above or, in the case of an applicant, by denying benefits for the same period of time measured from the date of application.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 409.050, 411.060, 411.404, 412.049

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 409.010, 411.060, 411.404, 411.632, 412.049

AMEND: 461-190-0211

REPEAL: Temporary 461-190-0211 from SSP 33-2026

NOTICE FILED DATE: 07/31/2026

RULE SUMMARY: OAR 461-190-0211 is being amended to add limitations to support services payments for auto insurance, housing, utilities, professional fees, self-employment and vehicle repairs and to add and clarify non-allowable payments. It is also being amended to update federal regulations and reorganize section (5) into alphabetical order.

CHANGES TO RULE:

461-190-0211

Standards for Support Service Payments; JOBS, Pre-TANF, SFPSS, TANF ¶¶

In the Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS), Pre-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), State Family Pre-SSI/SSDI (SFPSS), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs, notwithstanding any other administrative rule in chapter 461 and subject to the availability of state and federal funding, the following special provisions apply:¶¶

(1) Support services (see OAR 461-001-0025) payments are available to: ¶¶

(a) An individual who is an adult parent, needy caretaker relative (see OAR 461-001-0000), teen parent (see OAR 461-001-0000), or a minor parent (see OAR 461-001-0000) who is head of household; in the TANF filing group (see 461-110-0330) and is not otherwise exempt (see OAR 461-130-0305) and in accordance with participation requirements in OAR 461-130-0310.¶¶

(b) An individual who is a recipient of Pre-TANF or SFPSS programs.¶¶

(2) Pursuant to the reasonable cost requirements in ~~452~~ CFR ~~75200~~.404, in approving support services payments, the Department (see OAR 461-001-0000) must consider lower cost alternatives. This rule is not intended to supplant Department funding with other funding that is available in the community. The expectation of the Department is that Department staff and individuals work collaboratively to seek resources that are reasonably available to the individual in order to participate in activities.¶¶

(3) Payments for support services are provided when:¶¶

(a) Necessary to participate in an approved activity (see OAR 461-001-0025) specified in the individual's case plan;¶¶

(b) Authorized in advance; ¶¶

(c) The payment meets one of the four federal purposes of TANF identified in 45 CFR 260.20; and¶¶

(d) All other provisions of this rule are met.¶¶

(4) A Department approved activity is eligible for support services payments, except for the following activities:¶¶

(a) Family Support & Connections,¶¶

(b) Retention services, and¶¶

(c) Microenterprise (see OAR 461-190-0197).¶¶

(5) In the JOBS, Pre-TANF, SFPSS, and TANF programs, the Department may provide payments for support services for eligible (see OAR 461-130-0310) individuals engaged in an approved activity specified in the individual's case plan, subject to provisions in subsections (1)(a) and (1)(b) of this rule. Support services payment types are subject to the following limitations:¶¶

(a) ~~Tuition payments:~~¶¶

~~(A) Tuition payments for a vocational training activity or a jobs skills training activity (see OAR 461-001-0025) are limited to single payments by session as defined by the educational or vocational training entity, such as a term, semester, or quarter.¶¶~~

~~(B) Tuition payments for a self-initiated training activity shall be limited to no more than a twelve-month period per individual and shall be reviewed on a term-by-term basis. Individuals must show that they are making satisfactory progress (see OAR 461-001-0025) in their program and working towards receiving or clearing their standing to receive financial aid.¶¶~~

~~(C) Lower cost alternatives, as described in section (2) of this rule, must be explored.~~Auto Insurance: Payments for auto insurance to support the goals specified; including the individual pursuing financial aid and other sources of assistance.¶¶

~~(b) Auto Expenses: Payments for auto expenses, repairs, or car insurance to support the goals specified in the individual's case plan. Payments for vehicle repairs are limited to situations where repairs are necessary to operate the vehicle. In order to comply with section (2) of 's case plan. Payments for auto insurance are limited to no more than two month~~this rule, payments are made after the Department receives at least two estimates, unless the

~~Department determines there is a hardship in obtaining the estimates in a 12-month rolling period (see OAR 461-001-0025).~~

~~(e)~~ Eyeglasses: Effective July 19, 2023, payments for eyeglasses (does not include contacts) when necessary to remove a barrier towards gaining employment. Requests for eyeglasses above \$50 shall require verification of the need from a qualified and appropriate professional. Payments for eyeglasses are limited to individuals who are not:

(A) Under the age of 21;

(B) A pregnant adult; or

(C) Within the last day of the twelfth month following the month in which the individual gave birth.

~~(d)~~ Tax Preparation Services: Payments for personal tax preparation services are limited to payments for the current tax year and can only be accessed from January 1 through Tax Day in April, in situations where no free community resources are available. Housing and Utilities: Payments for housing and utilities are limited to nonrecurrent short-term payments to address a specific crisis or episode of need and are not intended to meet ongoing needs. Payments are further limited to:

(A) Up to four months of payments within a 12-month rolling period; and

(B) \$3,500 per TANF filing group within a 12-month rolling period.

~~(d)~~ Professional fees: Payments for professional fees are limited to:

(A) Application fees for housing;

(B) Auto insurance as described in subsection (5)(a) of this rule, and Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) fees for vehicles owned by a member of the TANF filing group;

(C) Background checks and fingerprinting for employment and training purposes;

(D) Educational costs related to Adult Basic Education, English Language Learner, and High School or GED Completion Attendance activities (see OAR 461-001-0025);

(E) Identity related documentation; and

(F) Required certifications, licenses, tests or professional registrations related to employment.

(e) Science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM): Payments for science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics are limited to educational purposes including but not limited to family passes to museums, Oregon State Parks, and marine or natural science centers. Individuals must continue to meet all other provisions of this rule and payment is limited to activities in which the eligible individual and their TANF filing group can participate together.

~~(f)~~ None of the following are allowed for payment by the Department:

(A) Medical Assistance or medical services, including but not limited to dental services, eye exams, urinalysis and other medical screenings, or substance use testing;

(B) Mental health services;

~~(C) Alcohol and drug treatment services~~ Self-employment expenses are limited to items or expenses that do not create or enhance long-term business value, ownership, or equity. These are limited to:

(A) Training, licensing, compliance, and insurance costs;

(B) Required clothing or safety gear; and

(C) Marketing and outreach materials or fees.

~~(g)~~ Tax Preparation Services: Payments for personal tax preparation services are limited to payments for the current tax year and can only be accessed from January 1 through Tax Day in April, in situations where no free community resources are available.

~~(h)~~ Tuition payments:

(A) Tuition payments for a vocational training activity or a jobs skills training activity (see OAR 461-001-0025) are limited to single payments by session as defined by the educational or vocational training entity, such as a term, semester, or quarter.

(B) Tuition payments for a self-initiated training activity shall be limited to no more than a twelve-month period per individual and shall be reviewed on a term-by-term basis. Individuals must show that they are making satisfactory progress (see OAR 461-001-0025) in their program and working towards receiving or clearing their standing to receive financial aid.

~~(D)~~ Credit card debt or other debt payments Lower cost alternatives, as described in section (2) of this rule, must be explored, including the individual pursuing financial aid and other sources of assistance.

~~(E)~~ Payments for expenses in the collection process Vehicle repairs: Payments for vehicle repairs are limited to situations where the TANF filing group resides in the vehicle only and are subject to all housing and utility payment limitations described in subsection (5)(c) of this rule.

~~(i)~~ None of the following are allowed for payment by the Department:

(A) Alcohol and drug treatment services.

(B) Animal related costs.

~~(F)~~ Any payments for eviction related expenses that do not result in the dismissal of the eviction described in this

rule for individuals employed in, seeking employment in, or engaged in an illegal activity (see OAR 461-120-0215).

(D) Auto expenses outside of subsection (5)(i) of this rule, this includes vehicle loan payments, vehicle repairs, maintenance, and tires.

(E) Child-care, including registration fees and ERDC co- payments.

(F) Payments for credit card debt, lines of credit, or other debt payments excluding mortgages.

(G) Entertainment services, including but not limited to amusement parks, digital streaming services or applications, or movie theaters.

(H) Fines, reinstatement fees, or eviction related expenses that do not result in the dismissal of the eviction.

(I) Expenses in the collection process.

(J) Expenses with a due date in a future benefit month.

(K) Legal fines, restitution, legal or civil fees (including attorney fees and expungement), court costs, or other costs associated with a legal penalty.

(L) Purchase of a car, recreational vehicle, or motor home.

(M) Any payments described in this rule for individuals employed in, seeking employment in, or engaged in an illegal activity (see OAR 461-120-0215), or substance use testing.

(N) Animal related costs.

(O) Payments for child care, including registration fees and ERDC co- payments.

(P) Purchase of a car, recreational vehicle, or motor home.

(Q) Purchase of a firearm or other items intended to be used as self-defense or as a weapon.

(R) Payments for expenses with a due date in a future benefit month.

(6) The Department may require an individual to provide verification of a need for, or costs associated with, support services prior to approval and issuance of payments if verification is reasonably available.

(7) The Department may reduce, close, or deny in whole or in part a request for support services payments in the following circumstances:

(a) The purpose for the payments is not related to the individual's case plan.

(b) The individual is failing to comply with the case plan or disqualified, unless the payments in question are necessary for the individual to demonstrate cooperation with the individual's case plan.

(c) The individual disagrees with support services payments offered or made by the Department as outlined in the individual's case plan.

(d) The payment does not relate to one of the four federal purposes of TANF in 45 CFR 260.20.

(e) The payment does not comply with the reasonable cost requirements in 45 CFR 260.404 or lower cost alternatives are available.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 409.050, 411.060, 411.070, 411.121, 412.006, 412.009, 412.014, 412.049

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 412.016, 412.049, 412.084, ORS 291.003, 409.010, 409.040, 411.060,

411.070, 411.121, 412.001, 412.002, 412.006, 412.009, 412.011, 412.014, 45 CFR 260.20, 2 CFR 200.404, 45

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