

## **Revised - Policy Clarifications**

### **Cash Assistance – All**

**PCT-20038-107**

**Submitted: 7/9/2020**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Authorizing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) without a signed Agreement of Mutual Responsibility (AMR) during the coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency**

**Question: Can the CAO grant good cause for a household without a signed AMR during the CAO office closure due to the COVID-19 emergency?**

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**Response by: Policy Clarification Unit**

**Date: 7/27/2020**

Yes. Per CAH 107.51, when the applicant or recipient indicates that they may not be able to receive or return the AMR, the CAO may grant 30 days of good cause and authorize TANF for the household. Examples of good cause include, but are not limited to, the applicant is homeless or hospitalized. If the CAO determines that there is good cause, then benefits will not be denied and the specified relative will be given 30 days from the interview date to complete and return the AMR. Upon receipt of the AMR, the CAO will update the case.

If the AMR is not received by the end of the good cause period, the individual is ineligible. The CAO will exclude the individual from the TANF grant or close Extended TANF budgets. See guidance provided in CAH 110.4 Mandatory TANF Budget Group Members and CAH 127.11 Specified Relative General Policy. Narrate all changes and case actions.

**NOTE:** No overpayment will occur for benefits received during a good cause period.