

**Policy Clarification - Other
PO6723730**

Submitted: 2/11/97

Agency: Allegheny CAO

Citations: SH 730

Subject: Use AFDC Rules for RCA/RMS

We have been informed that TANF does not apply to refugees with a status code 02. Effective March 3, 1997, AFDC regulations are out and TANF regulations are in. The computer system is being changed to fit the TANF regulations. For example, computation for income will include 50 percent disregard. Effective March 3, 1997, when we input a refugee to the system, TANF regulations will automatically apply since we no longer have AFDC on the system. How do we handle income computations for refugees while they receive d(02) for their first eight months in the U.S.?

RESPONSE BY: K. Dietrich

3/27/97

The AFDC income & resource requirements, which were in effect prior to 3/3/97, must still be applied when determining eligibility under Refugee Cash Assistance (D(02)) during a refugee's first eight months in the U.S.

According to a clarification issued by HHS, states must continue to use the \$90 and 30 1/3 deductions for Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance. Therefore, in order to accurately determine benefits under Refugee Cash Assistance(D(02)), it will be necessary to override CIS and do calculations manually.

Also, none of the other TANF income and resource changes (e.g. the car and life insurance exclusions) apply to Refugee Cash Assistance. States must continue to follow the AFDC income and resource requirements that were in effect prior to TANF, until the Federal regulations for Refugee Cash Assistance are changed.

Please note that the AMR is required for refugees receiving Cash Assistance. It is used in the same way as for other Cash recipients and will serve as the Refugee's Employment Development Plan as well.