

§ 20.101

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social work skills of casework, group work or community development to assist in solving social problems involving children, elderly and families. These services do not include money payments.

Special needs means a financial assistance payment made to or on behalf of children under social services supervision for circumstances that warrant financial assistance that is not included in the foster care rates; for example, respite care, homemaker service, day care service, and may include basic needs (special diets) which are not considered as a medical need where other resources are not available.

Superintendent means the Bureau official in charge of an agency office.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) means cash assistance provided under Title XVI of the Social Security Act (49 Stat. 620), as amended.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) means one of the programs of financial assistance provided under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA).

Tribal governing body means the federally recognized governing body of an Indian tribe.

Tribal redesign plan means a tribally designed method for changing general assistance eligibility and/or payment levels in accordance with 25 U.S.C.A. § 13d-3.

Tribal Work Experience Program (TWEPE) means a program operated by tribal contract/grant or self-governance annual funding agreement, which provides eligible participants with work experience and training that promotes and preserves work habits and develops work skills aimed toward self-sufficiency. The Bureau payment standard is established by the Assistant Secretary.

Unemployable means a person who meets the criteria specified in § 20.315.

[65 FR 63159, Oct. 20, 2000; 65 FR 76563, Dec. 7, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 15030, Mar. 15, 2001]

§ 20.101 What is the purpose of this part?

The regulations in this part govern the provision to eligible Indians of the following kinds of financial assistance and social services:

- (a) Adult Care Assistance;
- (b) Burial Assistance;
- (c) Child Assistance;
- (d) Disaster Assistance;
- (e) Emergency Assistance;
- (f) General Assistance;
- (g) Services to Children, Elderly and Families; and
- (h) Tribal Work Experience Program.

§ 20.102 What is the Bureau's policy in providing financial assistance and social services under this part?

(a) Bureau social services programs are a secondary, or residual resource, and must not be used to supplement or supplant other programs.

(b) The Bureau can provide assistance under this part to eligible Indians when comparable financial assistance or social services are either not available or not provided by state, tribal, county, local or other federal agencies.

(c) Bureau financial assistance and social services are subject to annual Congressional appropriations.

§ 20.103 Have the information collection requirements in this part been approved by the Office of Management and Budget?

The information collection requirements contained in §§ 20.300, 20.400, and 20.500 were submitted for clearance to the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 35d *et seq.* This information collection was approved by OMB with OMB Control #1076-0017. The expiration date is on the form. The information is collected to determine applicant eligibility for services. The information will be used to determine applicant eligibility and to insure uniformity of services. Response is required to obtain a benefit. The public reporting burdens for this form are estimated to average 15 minutes per response including time for reviewing the instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form.

Subpart B—Welfare Reform

§ 20.200 What contact will the Bureau maintain with State, tribal, county, local, and other Federal agency programs?

We will coordinate all financial assistance and social services programs

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with state, tribal, county, local and other federal agency programs to ensure that the financial assistance and social services program avoids duplication of assistance.

§ 20.201 How does the Bureau designate a service area and what information is required?

The Assistant Secretary can designate or modify service areas for a tribe. If you are a tribe requesting a service area designation, you must submit each of the following:

(a) A tribal resolution that certifies that:

(1) All eligible Indians residing within the service area will be served; and

(2) The proposed service area will not include counties or parts thereof that have reasonably available comparable services.

(b) Additional documentation showing that:

(1) The area is administratively feasible (that is, an adequate level of services can be provided to the eligible Indians residing in the area.);

(2) No duplication of services exists; and

(3) A plan describing how services will be provided to all eligible Indians can be implemented.

(c) Documentation should be sent to the Regional Director or Office of Self-Governance.

The Director or office will evaluate the information and make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary. The Assistant Secretary can make a determination to approve or disapprove and publish notice of the designation of service area and the Indians to be served in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Tribes currently providing services are not required to request designation for service areas unless they make a decision to modify their existing service areas.

§ 20.202 What is a tribal redesign plan?

If you are a tribe administering a general assistance program, you can develop and submit to us a tribal redesign plan to change the way that you administer the program.

(a) A tribal redesign plan allows a tribe to:

(1) Change eligibility for general assistance in the service area; or

(2) Change the amount of general assistance payments for individuals within the service area.

(b) If you develop a tribal redesign plan it must:

(1) Treat all persons in the same situation equally; and

(2) Will not result in additional expenses for the Bureau solely because of any increased level of payments.

§ 20.203 Can a tribe incorporate assistance from other sources into a tribal redesign plan?

Yes, when a tribe redesigns its general assistance program, it may include assistance from other sources (such as Public Law 102-477 federal funding sources) in the plan.

§ 20.204 Must all tribes submit a tribal redesign plan?

No, you must submit a tribal redesign plan under § 20.206 only if you want to change the way that the General Assistance program operates in your service area.

§ 20.205 Can tribes change eligibility criteria or levels of payments for General Assistance?

Yes, if you have a redesign plan, you can change eligibility criteria or levels of payment for general assistance.

(a) The funding level for your redesigned general assistance program will be the same funding received in the most recent fiscal or calendar year, whichever applies.

(b) If you do not have a prior year level of funding, the Bureau or Office of Self-Governance will establish a tentative funding level based upon best estimates for caseload and expenditures.

(c) A Bureau servicing office can administer a tribal redesign plan as requested by a tribal resolution.

§ 20.206 Must a tribe get approval for a tribal redesign plan?

If you have a Public Law 93-638 contract or receive direct services from us, you must obtain our approval before implementing a redesign plan. You can apply for approval to the Regional Director through the Bureau servicing office.