

# Minnesota's Diversionary Work Program - DWP

The Diversionary Work Program (DWP) is a four-month program that provides services and supports to eligible families to help them move immediately to work rather than go on welfare.

The four months of DWP do not count towards the 60-month lifetime limit for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

## Who is eligible

DWP is for families with children or pregnant women. Most families who apply for assistance will be on this program for four months.

### Eligibility criteria:

- You must meet the income eligibility test
- Your family may have up to \$2,000 in assets.

Ask a county financial worker for information about other DWP eligibility requirements.

## Supports for working families

DWP supports your family while you work or look for work. With DWP, you may be eligible for supports, such as:

- Help with rent, utilities or other housing costs
- Personal needs allowance
- Child care assistance.

## Parents are expected to work

All parents, including both parents in a two-parent family, are expected to develop and sign an employment plan before your family is approved for DWP. Your employment plan will consider what work you can do and other things about your family situation.

You must seek full-time work immediately if you are approved for DWP.

## Employment services

Parents will get help to find and keep a job.

- DWP services will help find work that fits your employment plan.
- DWP services may include help for you to identify and address family issues, which may prevent or delay your being able to get a job.
- Your employment plan may include limited training that you can complete in four or fewer months.

## Penalties for not following DWP rules

If you do not cooperate with your employment plan or child support requirements, your case will be closed. *You are not eligible for any other cash programs until your four months of DWP end.* Contact your job counselor or financial worker if you have a good reason for not following the rules.

## Verifications

You and each person in your family must submit information that proves:

- Who you are
- Where you live
- What your income and resources are.

To get help with your living expenses, you will also have to give proof of your housing costs.

## Who is not eligible

Some families are excluded from DWP. These include families with:

- All adults age 60 or older
- Disabled adults or severely disabled children
- Teen parents who do not have a high school diploma or GED and wish to finish school
- Some single parents with a child under 12 weeks old
- One or more caregivers who have been on MFIP or DWP in the past 12 months
- One or more caregivers who have received 60 months of MFIP or TANF
- A caregiver who is disqualified from DWP or MFIP due to fraud
- A caregiver who has been in the United States for less than 13 months

- A caregiver who has been approved for asylee status within the last 12 months.

## Other supports

- You may be eligible for Food Support, health care and child care assistance while on DWP.
- After the four months of DWP, you may be eligible for MFIP. You may continue to be eligible for Food Support, health care and child care assistance.

## How do you appeal?

If you do not agree with the action the county takes on your application, tell your county worker. Ask your worker to explain the reasons for the action.

You may see the policy manuals, rules and laws that give the reasons for the action. If you still do not agree, you may appeal. Your county worker will help you ask for an appeal hearing or contact:

Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Appeals Office  
PO Box 64941  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0941  
Metro: (651) 431-3600 (Voice)  
Outstate: (800) 657-3510  
TTY: (800) 627-3529  
Fax: (651) 431-7523

Bring any facts to the hearing that will help you explain why you do not agree. You may bring a friend or a lawyer. If you want a lawyer, ask your county worker for information about free legal services. You may bring people to the hearing to give information about the facts. After you and the county have talked about your case, the appeals referee will decide the case. You will get the decision in the mail.

If you are still not satisfied, you have 30 days to appeal to the state district court.

## Your right to file a complaint

If you feel the county or the Minnesota Department of Human Services treated you differently in the handling of your public assistance application or benefits because of race, color, national origin, political beliefs, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, public assistance status, age or disability, including physical access to government buildings, you may file a complaint with your county agency or any of the following agencies.

Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Office for Equal Opportunity  
PO Box 64997  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0997  
(651) 431-3040 (Voice)  
(866) 786-3945 (TTY)

Minnesota Department of Human Rights  
190 East 5th Street, Suite 700  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(800) 657-3704 (Voice)  
(651) 296-1283 (TTY)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office for Civil Rights, Region V  
233 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 240  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 886-2359 (Voice)  
(312) 353-5693 (TTY)

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Director, Office of Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410  
(800) 795-3272 (Voice)  
(202) 720-5964 (TTY)

## Your right to privacy

Most of the time, the facts asked for by the human services office are called “private.” This means you may see the facts about yourself, but they are not open to the public. Certain other government agencies may see them too. You have the right to question what you think is wrong in your file.

For more facts about data privacy, ask your worker, or write the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Attention. If you want free help translating this information, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

ملاحظة: إذا أردت مساعدة مجانية في ترجمة هذه المعلومات، فاسأل مساعدك في مكتب الخدمة الاجتماعية أو اتصل على الرقم .1-800-358-0377

កំណត់សំគាល់ បើអ្នកចង់បានជំនួយបកប្រែព័ត៌មាននេះដោយមិនគិតថ្លៃ សូមសួរអ្នកកាន់សំណុំរៀងរបស់អ្នក ឬ ទូរស័ព្ទទៅលេខ 1-888-468-3787 ។

Pažnja. Ako vam je potrebna besplatna pomoć za prevod ove informacije, pitajte vašeg radnika ili nazovite 1-888-234-3785.

Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, nug koj tus neeg lis dej num (worker) lossis hu 1-888-486-8377.

ໂປຼດຊາບ. ຖ້າຫາກທ່ານຕ້ອງການການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອໃນການແປຂໍ້ຄວາມດັ່ງກ່າວນີ້ຟຣີ, ຈົ່ງຖາມນຳພນັກງານຊ່ວຍວຽກຂອງທ່ານຫຼືໂທຮັ ຫາຕາມເລກໂທຮັ 1-888-487-8251.

Hubaddhu. Yoo akka odeeffannoon kun sii hiikamu gargaarsa tolaa feeta ta'e, hojjataa kee gaafaddhu ykn lakkoofsa kana bilbili 1-888-234-3798.

Внимание: если вам нужна бесплатная помощь в переводе этой информации, обратитесь к своему социальному работнику или позвоните по следующему телефону: 1-888-562-5877.

Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in laga kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la'aan ah, weydii hawl-wadeenkaaga ama wac lambarkan 1-888-547-8829.

Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, consulte a su trabajador o llame al 1-888-428-3438.

Chú Ý. Nếu quý vị cần dịch thông-tin này miễn phí, xin gọi nhân-viên xã-hội của quý vị hoặc gọi số 1-888-554-8759.

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This information is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling your county worker. TTY users can call through Minnesota Relay at (800) 627-3529. For Speech-to-Speech, call (877) 627-3848. For additional assistance with legal rights and protections for equal access to human services benefits, contact your agency's ADA coordinator.

(agency)