

***Form ACF-812, the Report on Engagement in Additional Work Activities for Families
Receiving Assistance under the TANF and SSP-MOE Programs
April – June 2011***

The Claims Resolution Act of 2010 requires each State agency to submit a Report on Engagement in Additional Work Activities. The data is collected and reported for each family with one or more work-eligible individuals.

As the state agency responsible for Choices - Texas's employment and training component of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is posting the summary data provided to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) for the April - June 2011 ACF-812 report.

Please note that in accordance with TANF final regulations (45 CFR §261.2), Texas only counts allowable work activities; therefore, we do not allow individuals to participate in any other activities. TWC believes it is important to note the factors associated with customers who have no countable participation hours.

Texas sampled 314 cases; of these, 121 cases were participating in Choices services, while 193 were not and 109 cases were meeting the Federal participation rate standards. On its face, this data can be misconstrued if the underlying factors - specifically, the exempt and mandatory status of the customers in the sample data - are not considered.

TWC analyzed the principal reason for non participation of the 193 cases with no activities:

- 41 percent (79 cases) family disregarded from participation rate (child under 1) and nonrecipient parents receiving SSI
- 20 percent (38 cases) families first month on assistance and no activity assigned
- 18 percent (34cases) State exempt total which includes the following:
 - (10 cases) State exempt due to illness or disability
 - (5 cases) State exempt due to illness or disability of a child or other family member
 - (19 cases) Other State exemption
- 13 percent (25 cases) in the process of being sanction, or is sanctioned
- 6 percent (12 cases) received a good cause exemption and were not required to participate
- 2 percent (5 cases) timely and reasonable attempt in process