



New Mexico Human Services Department

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INCOME SUPPORT DIVISION INTRADEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

ISD-IPP 09-05
DATE: April 22, 2009

TO: All ISD Staff and NMW Contractors

FROM: *Jen* Helen Nelson, Deputy Director
Income Support Division

RE: Changes to **TANF** work activities:
Job search/job readiness extended to 12-weeks

This IPP sets forth new participation limits which are being implemented to replace Section 8.102.460.24 B (2) NMAC on a provisional basis.

The USDA and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) have determined New Mexico has qualified and continues to qualify as a "needy State" based on an increase in the food stamp caseload as of August 2008.

Accordingly, the TANF job search/job readiness activity is extended from 6 weeks of participation to 12 weeks of participation. The modification applies retroactively to any clients placed in job search/job readiness activity since October 1, 2008.

The same Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) final rules apply to this modification:

- No more than 4 consecutive weeks of job search/job readiness in a fiscal year
- 12 weeks of job search/job readiness is equivalent to
 - o 240 hours for a single custodial parent of a child under age six or
 - o 360 hours for all other work-eligible individuals

The NMW contractors will be required to make appropriate adjustments to reporting and tracking the accumulated job search/job readiness hours to conform to this IPP.

For further questions, please contact Nicole Taylor at Nicole.taylor1@state.nm.us and/or Karmela Martinez at Karmela.martinez@state.nm.us.