

TANF Emergency Fund

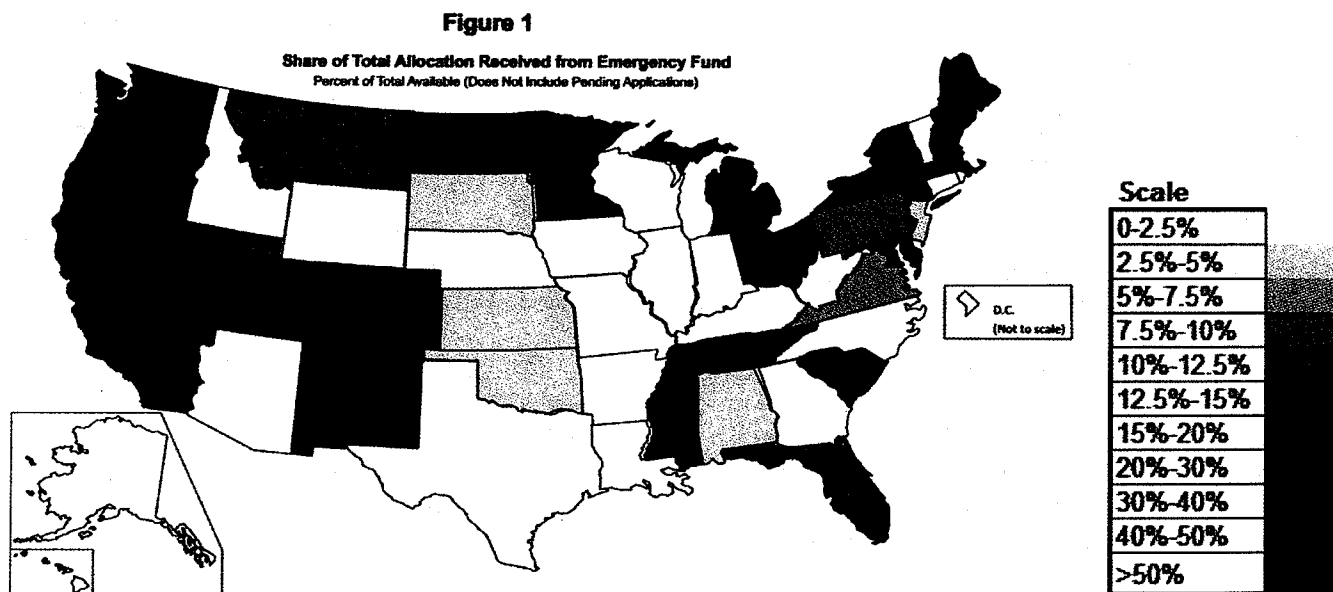
January 8, 2010

State Applications Approved as of January 7
Elizabeth Lower-Basch and Josh Bone

Section 2101 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) created a new TANF Emergency Fund, funded at \$5 billion. This federal fund provides states 80 percent of the funding for spending increases in certain categories of TANF-related expenditures in FYs 2009 or 2010 over FYs 2007 or 2008. Each state can receive no more than 50 percent of its annual block grant over the two-year period from the combination of the new Emergency Fund and the regular Contingency Fund.

In the most recent data available on the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) website, as of January 7, 2010, 34 states (plus the District of Columbia) have been awarded a total of \$1.07 billion from the Emergency Fund.¹ This figure represents a lower bound on state use of the Emergency Fund, as a number of other states have applications pending before HHS, and the states that have already received funds can apply for additional funds. For example, California has been approved for funding for increases in basic assistance and subsidized employment, but expects to submit an additional application for increases in subsidized employment. States may submit initial applications for funding from the Emergency Fund for federal fiscal years 2009 and 2010 at any point until September 1, 2010.

Figure 1 shows the percent of the total allocation each state has received from the Emergency Fund so far.



For additional information about the TANF Emergency Fund, visit CLASP's resource page at: <http://www.clasp.org/TANFEmergencyFund>

Figure 2 shows the percent of the total allocation each state has received from a combination of the Emergency Fund and the Contingency Fund. Eighteen states received funds from the Contingency Fund in FY 2009 and fourteen received funds during the first two months of FY 2010. However, the regular Contingency Fund ran out of money in December 2009, and no further funding is available from it.

Figure 2

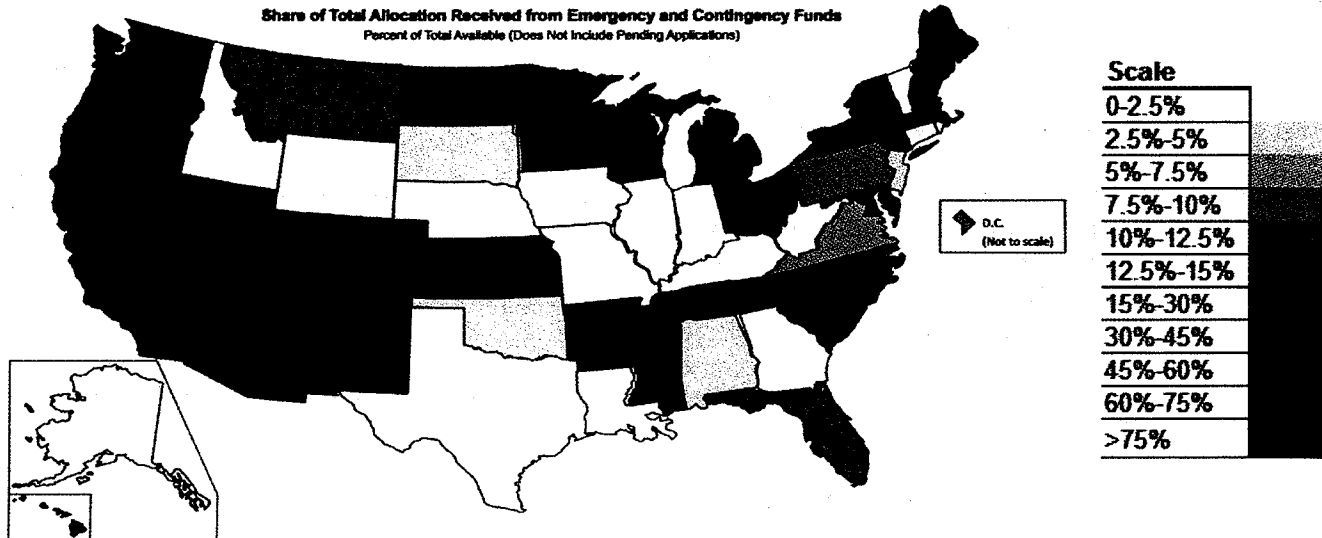


Table 1 shows each state's annual block grant allocation, the maximum amount each state could receive under the TANF Emergency Fund, the amount each state had received from the TANF Contingency Fund in FY 2009 and in October and November, 2009, the amount each state had received from the TANF Emergency Fund as of January 7, 2010, and the share of the total allocation that each state has received so far. The amount each state has received from the Emergency Fund does not include any pending applications.

So far, 29 states have received a total of \$692 million based on increased cash assistance caseloads, 15 have received \$284 million based on increased spending in short-term non-recurrent assistance, and 17 (plus the District of Columbia) have received \$95 million based on increased spending on subsidized employment.

The states that have received the largest amounts of funding to date are California and New York. The majority of California's award is for increased basic assistance, but the award also includes a significant increase in subsidized employment in the last quarter of FY 2009. The largest portion of New York's award is for the Back to School Initiative, which provided one-time back to school payments to more than 800,000 children in low-income families in August 2009. Nevada and New Mexico have each accessed more than 85 percent of their possible allocations, and an additional 7 states have accessed more than 60 percent. All of these states accessed both the Contingency Fund and the Emergency Fund.

ⁱ All Emergency and Contingency Fund data from HHS, Approved TANF Emergency Fund Applications by Category, December 2, 2009. <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/apprTANFemerfund.html> In addition, 10 tribes have been awarded \$3.5 million. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/apprTANFemerfund_tribe.html

Table 1: Share of TANF Emergency Fund Awarded

State	Adjusted Block Grant	Maximum Allocation from Emergency and Contingency Funds	Received from Contingency Fund, FY 09	Received from Contingency Fund, 10/09 and 11/09, Estimate*	Received from Emergency Fund as of 1/07/10	% of Maximum Allocation Awarded	Basic Assistance	Non-Recurrent Short-Term	Subsidized Employment
Alabama	93,315,207	46,657,604	0	0	2,045,234	4.4%	X		X
Alaska	46,420,813	23,210,407	0	0	0	0.0%			
Arizona	200,232,697	100,116,349	40,046,539	6,674,423	0	46.7%			
Arkansas	56,732,858	28,366,429	11,346,572	1,891,095	0	46.7%			
California	3,659,875,042	1,829,937,521	0	0	415,318,852	22.7%	X		X
Colorado	136,056,690	68,028,345	24,943,727	4,535,223	11,591,141	60.4%	X	X	
Connecticut	266,788,107	133,394,054	0	0	0	0.0%			
Delaware	32,290,981	16,145,491	6,458,196	1,076,366	2,670,287	63.2%	X		X
Dist. of Columbia	92,609,815	46,304,908	0	3,086,994	991,963	8.8%			X
Florida	562,340,120	281,170,060	0	0	30,529,083	10.9%	X		X
Georgia	330,741,739	165,370,870	0	0	0	0.0%			
Guam	3,465,478	1,732,739	0	0	0	0.0%			
Hawaii	98,904,788	49,452,394	11,538,892	3,296,826	0	30.0%			
Idaho	30,412,562	15,206,281	0	0	0	0.0%			
Illinois	585,056,960	292,528,480	0	0	1,409,166	0.5%	X		X
Indiana	206,799,109	103,399,555	0	0	0	0.0%			
Iowa	130,993,952	65,496,976	0	0	817,512	1.2%	X		
Kansas	101,931,061	50,965,531	18,687,361	0	1,505,828	39.6%	X		
Kentucky	181,287,669	90,643,835	0	0	1,202,347	1.3%	X		
Louisiana	163,971,985	81,985,993	0	0	0	0.0%			
Maine	78,120,889	39,060,445	0	0	5,916,931	15.1%	X	X	
Maryland	229,098,032	114,549,016	38,183,005	7,636,601	29,690,294	65.9%	X	X	
Massachusetts	459,371,116	229,685,558	91,874,223	15,312,371	41,766,692	64.9%	X	X	
Michigan	775,352,858	387,676,429	155,070,572	25,845,095	57,913,249	61.6%		X	X
Minnesota	263,434,070	131,717,035	0	0	20,770,650	15.8%	X	X	X
Mississippi	86,767,578	43,383,789	0	0	8,977,499	20.7%	X		X
Missouri	217,051,740	108,525,870	0	0	0	0.0%			
Montana	38,039,116	19,019,558	0	0	2,339,085	12.3%	X		X
Nebraska	57,513,601	28,756,801	0	0	0	0.0%			
Nevada	43,907,517	21,953,759	6,586,128	0	12,143,534	85.3%	X		
New Hampshire	38,521,261	19,260,631	0	0	5,706,444	29.6%	X		

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New Jersey	404,034,823	202,017,412	0	0	7,180,715	3.6%		X	
New Mexico	110,578,100	55,289,050	22,115,620	3,685,937	22,055,756	86.6%	X		
New York	2,442,930,602	1,221,465,301	407,155,100	81,431,020	191,418,988	55.7%	X	X	X
North Carolina	302,239,599	151,119,800	60,447,920	10,074,653	0	46.7%			
North Dakota	26,399,809	13,199,905	0	0	3,044,887	23.1%			X
Ohio	727,968,260	363,984,130	0	0	58,362,881	16.0%	X		
Oklahoma	145,281,442	72,640,721	0	0	2,574,412	3.5%	X		X
Oregon	166,798,629	83,399,315	0	0	16,905,198	20.3%	X	X	X
Pennsylvania	719,499,305	359,749,653	0	0	28,899,513	8.0%		X	
Puerto Rico	71,562,501	35,781,251	0	0	0	0.0%			
Rhode Island	95,021,587	47,510,794	0	0	0	0.0%			
South Carolina	99,967,824	49,983,912	19,993,565	3,332,261	9,025,626	64.7%	X		
South Dakota	21,279,651	10,639,826	0	0	351,007	3.3%	X		
Tennessee	191,523,797	95,761,899	38,304,759	0	13,029,166	53.6%	X		X
Texas	486,256,752	243,128,376	0	0	5,295,838	2.2%		X	
Utah	75,609,475	37,804,738	15,121,895	2,520,316	4,145,519	57.6%	X	X	X
Vermont	47,353,181	23,676,591	0	0	0	0.0%			
Virgin Islands	2,846,564	1,423,282	0	0	0	0.0%			
Virginia	158,285,172	79,142,586	0	0	5,832,994	7.4%	X	X	X
Washington	380,954,498	190,477,249	76,149,947	0	48,295,454	65.3%	X	X	X
West Virginia	110,176,310	55,088,155	0	0	899,811	1.6%	X	X	
Wisconsin	314,499,354	157,249,677	62,899,871	0	0	40.0%			
Wyoming	18,500,530	9,250,265	0	0	0	0.0%			
Total	16,386,973,176	8,193,486,601 ♦	1,106,923,892	170,399,181	1,070,623,556	4.4%			

* Estimated amount is equal to two months times the maximum monthly allotment of 1/12 of 20% of the Adjusted Block Grant

♦ Figure shown is sum of state maximums; however, only \$5 billion is available from the Emergency Fund.