



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND CASE MANAGERS**

FROM: CHARLES E. HENRY, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: TANF WORK PARTICIPATION RATE REQUIREMENTS

PROGRAM AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY:

Action Transmittals 97-66R and #97-67 describe the work requirements under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 and the definitions for each of the federal work activities. Each month, states must ensure that a significant number of all parents receiving Temporary Cash Assistance participate in a work activity, as defined by the federal legislation.

During Federal Fiscal Year 2001 (October 2000 – September 2001), the percentage served each month (known as the Participation Rate) must average 45% minus the State's Caseload Reduction Credit. We anticipate that our caseload reduction credit will significantly reduce our actual Participation Rate Requirement.

For a case to be countable toward meeting the Participation Rate Requirement in FFY 2001, the parent must be participating in a federally defined activity for an **average of 30 hours per week**. The first 20 hours must be in one of the core work activities described in AT #97-67. For the cases selected in the monthly federal reporting sample, the activity and attendance information must be entered into the Work Opportunities Management Information System (WO MIS) to be included in the federal report.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct questions to Mark Millspaugh at mmillspa@dhr.state.md.us or 410-767-8558.

c: DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
CTF
Help Desk