



Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians
Tribal TANF
Program Plan Renewal

June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2025
(Amended-effective June 1, 2023)



SHINGLE SPRINGS BAND OF MIWOK INDIANS

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SECTION I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

The intent of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians is to provide TANF assistance and related support services to eligible Tribal Members and their families residing in the approved service areas. Those eligible Native American families residing within the approved service areas of El Dorado, Placer, Yolo, and Sacramento Counties in California must meet all of the requirements and eligibility criteria as described in this plan and in the Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Program policies and procedures.

SECTION II
STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), Section 412, authorizes federally-recognized Indian Tribes to operate Tribal Family Assistance Programs. This plan is submitted pursuant to and in accordance with 45 CFR 286.75.

SECTION III
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians shall be responsible for the overall administration of the Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Program (SSTTP) and will provide Tribal TANF assistance and related support services to all eligible Native Americans and their families who reside within the approved service area. The Shingle Springs Tribal Council has designated by resolution the overall program operations and administrative authority to the TANF Department. Shingle Springs Tribal TANF program operates offices in each county in the approved service area.

SECTION IV
PROGRAM GOALS

The primary goals of the SSTTP are to provide assistance and/or support services that are intended to meet the purposes of TANF and:

1. To increase the employability and employment opportunities of needy participant families by providing comprehensive employment training, career pathways services, soft-skills development services, and other employment supports that enable clients to obtain and maintain long-term employment. Progress on this goal will be measured by compiling and tracking participant employment and transitional case data, ongoing employment assessments, and participant data related to excess earned income.
2. To prevent and reduce unplanned, out-of-wedlock pregnancies in youth participants by providing prevention activities, healthy development supports, and education activities that encourage healthy, responsible decision making, reduce participation in high risk behaviors, and increase skills and educational success. Progress on this goal will be measured by compiling and tracking data on teen pregnancy rates in the programs; school and program attendance rates; and participant youths' GPAS.
3. To encourage healthy and stable two parent Native American families by providing supports and activities that help to stabilize families and foster positive relationships, strengthen parenting skills, and facilitate the development of healthy coping mechanisms. Progress on this goal will be measured by using the program's data collection and reporting tools to track the number of two parent families in the program; participant's progress towards goals identified in their Family Wellness Plan, and the outcome of referrals to partner agencies.

SECTION V
PERIOD COVERED BY THE PLAN

This plan covers the continued operation of the SSTTP for a three-year period beginning June 1, 2022 and ending May 31, 2025.

SECTION VI
TANF PLAN COMMENT AND REVIEW

Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Program (SSTTP) complied with the 45-day public comment period. A copy of this plan was posted on the Shingle Springs Rancheria website for public comment from December 15, 2021 through January 31, 2022. Any and all comments have been reviewed and considered for inclusion in development of this plan. The plan was reviewed and commented on by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Tribal TANF board on February 8, 2022; the Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Board consists of representatives from the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and the Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, which includes the Chairman of Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation. Input received from both council members and community members was incorporated into the plan. The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Tribal Council reviewed and approved the plan on March 24, 2022.

SECTION VII
SERVICE POPULATION

The SSTTP will provide TANF assistance and related support services to all eligible Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indian tribal members, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation tribal members, members of federally recognized Native American Tribes, Alaska Natives, members of the California Judgment Rolls, their descendants and families who reside in the approved service area.

SECTION VIII
SERVICE AREA

The SSTTP will provide TANF assistance and related support services to all eligible members of the approved service population who reside on the Shingle Springs Rancheria and in the off-reservation areas of El Dorado, Placer, Yolo and Sacramento Counties (Sacramento and Yolo Counties are the shared BIA designated service area for Cortina Rancheria Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation and Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians).

SECTION IX
EQUAL TREATMENT

The SSTTP will provide TANF assistance and support services in an unbiased and fair manner to all to eligible Native American families who meet all TANF eligibility requirements.

SECTION X
ELIGIBILITY FOR TANF ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES BASED ON
THE PURPOSES OF TANF

Eligibility for SSTTP assistance and services is as established in the Tribe's approved Tribal TANF Plan. Only needy families, as defined in the TANF plan may receive (a) any form of federal or State MOE funded "assistance" (as defined at 45 CFR 286.10); or (b) any benefits or services pursuant to TANF purposes 1 or 2, regardless of the purpose served. "Needy" means financially deprived, according to income and resource (if applicable) criteria established in the TANF plan by the Tribe to receive the particular "assistance", benefit, or service. The Tribe may use segregated federal TANF funds to provide services that do not constitute "assistance" (as defined at 45 CFR

286.10) to individuals and family members who are not financially deprived but who need the kind of services that meet TANF purposes 3 or 4. Objective criteria will be used to establish eligibility for participation in these services and activities. Unless the State instructs otherwise, the Tribe may also use state MOE funds to pay for non-assistance pro-family activities for individuals or family members, regardless of financial need.

SECTION XI
FAMILIES MOVING INTO COVERED SERVICE AREA

Eligible needy Native American families moving into the designated service area will receive the same amount of cash assistance and support services as all other eligible families. However, these families must provide evidence of permanent residency within the boundaries of the Shingle Springs Rancheria or in the off-reservation areas of El Dorado, Placer, Yolo or Sacramento Counties and must not be participating in any other state, county or Tribal TANF Program.

SECTION XII
NON-DUPLICATION OF SERVICES

All applicants are required to sign a statement certifying that neither they nor any other family member within the applicant family are receiving assistance from any other Tribal, State or County TANF Program. Information will be disclosed to other TANF Programs to verify non-duplication of TANF assistance or services. Social Security numbers for Tribal TANF applicants will be shared with other TANF Programs to avoid duplication of services. Procedures to assure non-duplication of services are in place through agreements with state, county and Tribal programs where individuals may be dually eligible for services.

SECTION XIII
ELIGIBILITY FOR CASH ASSISTANCE/NEEDY FAMILIES

The SSTTP defines needy families as those families with a total family income equal to, or less than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, for the provision of any form of assistance as defined below. However, for eligible individuals, at risk youth or families, the provision of support services activities under TANF purposes 3 or 4 only may not require income as an eligibility requirement. Under the SSTTP an eligible needy Native American family or program assistance unit will be comprised of dependent child(ren) and parent(s) or caretaker relative(s). The SSTTP will define eligible Native American families as those families who meet the income guidelines and the following eligibility and income requirements:

1. Native American

At least one child in the family unit must meet the criteria defined for members of our service population. This includes all eligible Shingle Spring's tribal members, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation tribal members, members of federally recognized Native American Tribes, Alaska Natives, and members of the California Judgment Rolls, their families and descendants who reside in the approved service area.

2. Residency

The participant must be a resident of the service area as defined in this plan. There is no minimum time period required to establish residency; however, a person must permanently reside and not be here on vacation or transient.

3. Citizen/Alien Status

The participant must be a US citizen or have an approved alien status. Participants must sign a statement attesting to citizenship or alien status.

4. Social Security Number

The participant must submit or apply for a Social Security Number (SSN).

The SSTTP Plan defines an eligible Native American family as all biological children, stepchildren, adopted or relative child (including non-Native American) under the age of 18, and up to age 19 (if attending high school and scheduled to graduate), living with an eligible adult as defined in the following:

1. At least one child in every family must be Native American.

A child who resides with a non-Native American caretaker is only eligible because they, the child, are an eligible Native American. Eligible Native American families as defined above must also meet one of the following criteria:

1. Native American/non-Native American single parent with eligible child (ren) or;
2. Native American/non-Native American pregnant woman, expecting an eligible child (individuals will become eligible for Tribal TANF services in the first month of their third trimester of pregnancy) or;
3. Native American/non-Native American two parent families with eligible child (ren) or;
4. Eligible Native American child living with a non-needy caretaker relative (non-foster care). Must be related by blood (no limit to the degree of relationship), by law or related by Tribal culture or tradition.
5. Native American/non-Native American needy caretaker with eligible Native American child (ren). Must be related by blood (no limit to the degree of relationship), by law or related Tribal culture or tradition.

SECTION XIV

PURSUING AND ASSIGNING BENEFITS/ASSETS

Except for pregnant females and SSI recipients, the participant must apply for and pursue child support with local child support agency, unless there is good cause, or where the pursuit of assignment would jeopardize the victim parent and/or child (ren) due to a history of or a substantial threat of domestic violence, battery and/or extreme cruelty. Additionally, cases in which parents have already reached an agreement may be exempt from this, providing the agreement is maintained.

SECTION XV

INCOME AND EARNINGS

All needy SSTTP participants earned income will be used in the calculation of the monthly grant amount except for the first \$1,000.00 plus 50% of each additional dollar of non-subsidized earnings. The total income/earnings (after deductions) shall not exceed the monthly family grant amount.

SSTTP may exempt up to \$1,250.00 per quarter of per capita/revenue sharing disbursements, not to exceed \$5,000.00 annually. The SSTTP will exclude all Native American judgment funds or other disbursements that are excluded under federal law, from being counted as income. During a national or statewide emergency, SSTTP may temporarily exclude any federally issued enhanced Unemployment Insurance (UI) funds (such as those under CARES) from being counted as income or assets, as identified in SSTTP emergency policy.

All income received from any government authorized Guaranteed Income Pilot Programs will be disregarded as income in eligibility determination and calculation of monthly grant.

SECTION XVI
RESOURCES AND ASSETS

The SSTTP will exclude from the resource limit one safe operating vehicle for every working adult and/or licensed student over 16 years old using the vehicle to attend school or training, and up to \$10,000.00 in all other available resources including equity in other vehicles. All other assets/resources, (i.e., property, mineral rights, stocks, etc.), will be considered as available assets (with the exception of land/home located on an Native American reservation, and/or a dwelling and associated land owned by a member of the TANF unit and providing the primary residence of the family/unit). Exceptions may be granted in special circumstances, for example burial accounts or inoperable vehicles and/or other assets that are held in trust or have no value. We also will exempt all property that is considered cultural, traditional or for subsistence purposes. On a case-by-case basis, the program may waive the resource limit if the resource is reasonably expected to produce employment or income for the family in the future (e.g., wood cutting equipment, tools, etc.).

SECTION XVII
TANF ASSISTANCE

The SSTTP will provide eligible needy Native American families monthly assistance as defined at 45 CFR 286.10 in the form of cash, checks, vouchers, or other forms of benefits designed to meet a family's ongoing basic needs such as utilities, food, clothing, shelter, household goods, personal care items and other basic needs. This may include child care and transportation assistance for those TANF participants who are participating in approved work activities but are not yet employed.

SECTION XIII
REDETERMINATION OF TRIBAL TANF ELIGIBILITY

SSTTP participant case files will be reviewed on a monthly basis to re-determine eligibility for receipt of assistance. SSTTP will conduct face-to-face or telephone re-certification interviews with assistance participants on an annual basis from initial intake completion date.

SECTION XIX
SUPPORT AND PREVENTION SERVICES

SSTTP may provide eligible Tribal TANF Program participant families and other eligible families (as defined by the eligibility guidelines established in the SSTTP policy and procedures) with the following support and prevention services (“other eligible families” are not eligible for those support services where noted “for cash assisted participant families only”):

1. Educational activities designed to increase self-sufficiency for SSTTP cash assisted participants only.
2. SSTTP may provide cash assisted participants with justifiable job related and educational costs when in compliance with SSTTP approved work participation requirements. These costs may include but are not limited to books, uniforms, tuition, registration fees, educational supplies, and clothing allowance.
3. Community, economic, and job development, as approved by ACF (cash assisted participant families only).
4. Job training and work experience for SSTTP cash assisted participants only (excluding any expense for public education).
5. Domestic violence services, such as referral(s) to counseling and assistance with temporary shelter.
6. Culturally relevant supportive services and activities which foster self-sufficiency by strengthening community involvement and support, promote knowledge of culturally

- traditional family formation, building of social support networks or potential employment networks and increasing utilization of native community resources.
7. Child care and transportation costs for SSTTP cash assisted participants engaged in approved work activities.
 8. Teen pregnancy prevention and education.
 9. Non-medical substance abuse services and mental health services to remove barriers to wellness, employment and self-sufficiency (cash assisted participant families only).
 10. Assistance for dental and vision services in order to remove barriers to employment when all other resources have been exhausted (cash assisted participant families only).
 11. A onetime payment of up to \$2,500.00 for SSTTP cash assisted participants, in compliance with the SSTTP toward paying: (1) Education loans that are in default or, (2) Non-criminal traffic fines to obtain a driver's license under specific circumstances in the context of removing barriers to job preparation, employment, training or other job related education (as funds permit).
 12. May provide non-cash assistance, educational training, or activities to a non-custodial parent of an eligible Tribal TANF family for the purposes of enhancing the non-custodial parent's ability to provide child support payments to the custodial parent (cash assisted participant families only).
 13. Vocational training at a public school for SSTTP cash assisted participants (such as attending a community college to learn a trade, skill, profession or vocation.)
 14. May provide small business development training for SSTTP cash assisted participants as approved by ACF.
 15. May provide non-cash aid supportive services to a non-needy caretaker for the purpose of improving the caretaker's capacity to care for and support an eligible native child (child only cases).
 16. May provide tools and equipment needed for work or occupation for SSTTP cash assisted participants with an annual limit of \$3,000.00 for each individual (as funds permit).
 17. May provide assistance with relocation expenses as related to employment for SSTTP cash assisted participants with a lifetime limit of \$5,000.00 per TANF case (as funds permit).
 18. May provide grooming and cosmetic expenses as related to employment for SSTTP cash assisted participants (e.g., dry cleaning, haircuts) up to a maximum of \$300.00 per six (6) month period. (cash assisted participant families only)
 19. May provide workshops, parenting skills classes and educational activities to encourage, foster, and support positive native parenting.
 20. May provide culturally relevant prevention services for youth intended to decrease risk factors that can lead to unwanted teen pregnancies, suicide, substance use and truancy. Activities will focus on alternatives to risky behaviors, healthy decision making, self-esteem building, academic success, employment readiness, and leadership skills. Activities include after school and summer programming, tutoring, leadership workshops and classes, and work preparation workshops to TANF income-eligible and other eligible youth (as established by the eligibility criteria in the SSTTP policies and procedures).
 21. May provide TANF assistance families with a supportive benefit of up to \$2,500.00 per eligible child per year to support participation in youth activities that focus on the developmental needs (including social emotional and academic) of the child as outlined in their Family Wellness Plan. The benefit may be used for activities that will help to reduce risk factors and support healthy development of the child such as after school activities (music lessons, team activities, educational activities, psycho-social development activities, computer skills, high-risk behavior prevention classes), and tutoring that foster healthy living and decision making. This support service is available as funds allow and will not

- supplant another publicly funded program (cash assisted participant families only).
22. May provide an incentive up to \$1,000.00 once in a lifetime to help pay for a marriage license and cultural ceremonial cost, as an incentive to become a two-parent family. This will be considered a special marriage incentive to the family and will not be counted as income (cash assisted families only).
 23. May provide seasonal clothing allowance once annually up to \$500.00 per eligible child during winter months as further defined in Policy & Procedures (cash assisted participant families only).
 24. May assist eligible participants in obtaining right to work documents and eligibility documents such as but not limited to birth certificates, identification cards, and appropriate licenses (cash-assisted participant families only).
 25. May provide TANF assistance eligible youth participants \$500.00 for successful graduation from high school or its equivalency (cash assisted participant families only).

SECTION XX **TIME LIMITS**

The SSTTP shall limit the time a family may receive federal cash assistance from the TANF Program to a maximum of sixty (60) months. Utilizing the sixty (60) month time limit will allow adequate time for the SSTTP to assess barriers and provide employment training so adults may enter the workforce and become self-sufficient. Once a family is ineligible to receive federally funded TANF assistance due to the federal time limit, the SSTTP may continue to provide assistance to the eligible children of the timed-out family, using State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds, if funds are available and provided to the SSTTP by the State of California. Any family whose assistance is extended through State MOE fund will not be eligible for federally funded supportive services.

The SSTTP will not count any months of receipt of assistance to a family that does not include an adult head of household; or any month of receipt of assistance by an adult during which the adult lived in Indian Country or in an Alaskan Native Village in which at least 50% of the adults were not employed.

The SSTTP will count all prior months of TANF assistance funded with TANF block grant funds, except for any month that was exempt or disregarded by statute, regulation, or under any experimental, pilot or demonstration project approved under Section 115 of the Act.

SECTION XXI **HARDSHIP EXEMPTION**

The SSTTP may exempt up to 20% of the Program caseload from applicable time limits based upon hardship. Hardship exemptions are conditions that hamper or inhibit a family's ability to maintain work or enter into work activities. The Program may consider, on a case-by-case basis, the following categories of cases for exemption from the 60-month time limit:

1. Individuals with significant physical/mental disabilities which limit their ability to perform work activities and/or maintain employment (as established and documented by a qualified medical professional).
2. Single parent with four or more children 6-years old and under (not school aged).
3. Eligible applicant adult(s) responsible for the full-time care of an elderly (55 years of age or older) or significantly disabled relative as documented by a qualified medical doctor.
4. When one parent in a two parent TANF participant family is incapacitated by illness or disability (as verified by a medical professional) and must be cared for by the other parent.

5. Will exempt participant adult(s) who have been subjected to domestic violence or battery as determined and documented by a mental health professional.

SECTION XXII

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND BATTERY

Pursuant to 45 CFR 286.140, the SSTTP may exempt those families who have been subjected to domestic violence or battery from the TANF time limits. Eligibility for this exemption will be determined and documented by a mental health professional on a case-by-case basis and approved by the Executive Director or his/her designee for a period of time deemed appropriate and necessary, not to exceed 24 months. Exemption is for the time clock only; work participation requirement exemptions will be assessed on a quarterly basis for up to a year; this can be extended based on need for this provision.

The SSTTP has established and is enforcing standards and a procedure that meet Tribal, State and Federal standards and certifies that TANF policies include procedures that will:

1. Screen and identify individuals with a history of domestic violence, while maintaining confidentiality.
2. Refer such individuals to counseling and supportive services.

Family Violence Waivers of SSTTP requirements must:

1. Identify the specific program requirement being waived.
2. Be granted based on need as determined by an individualized assessment, by a person trained in domestic violence prevention and undergo re-determinations no less than every six months.
3. Be accompanied by an appropriate service plan that:
 - a) Is developed in coordination with a person trained in domestic violence prevention.
 - b) Reflects the individualized assessment and any revisions indicated by any re-determination.

SECTION XXIII

COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

The SSTTP may coordinate with other Tribal service providers (e.g., Inter-Tribal Council, Shingle Springs Health and Wellness Center, California Indian Manpower Consortium, Chapa De Indian Health, Northern Valley Indian Health, Sacramento Native American Health Clinic, ICWA, General Assistance, LIHEAP) and other welfare related agencies (county, state, Tribal and eligibility based or work opportunity programs) in order to assist clients in obtaining needed services. The SSTTP will coordinate with state, county, local high schools, community colleges, universities, and local Native American programs for educational needs and to enhance job opportunities. The SSTTP will use similar state/Tribal Memorandums of Understanding used by other Tribal TANF Programs in California to address the transfer of cases and other related information.

SECTION XXIV

CHILD CARE

The SSTTP may assist income eligible TANF program participant families with obtaining and paying for tribally approved child care providers including family or extended family providers, contracted state licensed child care providers, and child care centers. Additionally, child care may also be provided by tribally-approved providers or another SSTTP participant who is authorized to

provide child care services to fulfill their SSTTP work requirements. Transitional child care services may be made available to families who qualify for transitional support services.

SECTION XXV
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

SSTTP participants may be eligible for non-cash support services for up to twelve (12) months after they become employed and lose eligibility for the TANF cash grant due to excess income (i.e., income that exceeds 200% of the Tribal TANF eligibility standards). Family Advocates will provide written justification for all support service decisions, including why the service is needed as related to TANF purposes and why the cost is appropriate. These justifications will be part of the case file for the TANF unit. Transitional services may include; child care, transportation, and employment related services and supports.

SECTION XXVI
DIVERSION SERVICES

SSTTP may provide diversion assistance or services to families at risk of welfare dependency for one episode of need within 12 months. Eligible families must have countable income equal to or less than 300% of the federal poverty level and meet SSTT program eligibility requirements. An episode of need cannot exceed four months; time will be tracked from date of application and case limited to 4 months. Diversion assistance and/or services are cash payments and/or services provided to families who: (1) are not currently SSTTP cash assistance recipients; (2) are at risk of becoming dependent upon welfare; (3) are in need of a one time or limited benefit to help them avoid becoming dependent on welfare. (\$10,000.00 lifetime limit).

SECTION XXVII
NON-RECURRENT SHORT TERM BENEFITS

As funds permit, SSTTP may provide assistance eligible Tribal TANF participant families with non-recurrent short term benefits (NRSTB) to meet an extraordinary need that arises from a crisis situation and is beyond those needs that are intended to be covered by regular TANF assistance and support services. As per the regulation at 45 CFR Part 286.10 (b)(1), NRSTB must meet the following criteria:

1. Are designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need;
2. Are not intended to meet recurrent or ongoing needs; and
3. Will not extend beyond 4 months:

SSTTP will establish a lifetime limit of \$10,000.00 for NRSTB per TANF assistance case outside of the context of a natural disaster or pandemic. Families will be eligible for this benefit once per year, not to exceed \$5,000.00 per episode unless there are extraordinary circumstances.

SECTION XXVIII
NON-RECURRENT SHORT TERM BENEFITS IN THE CONTEXT OF NATURAL DISASTER OR PANDEMIC

As funds permit, Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Program may provide assistance eligible Tribal TANF participant families and TANF eligible Indian families whose total family income is equal to or less than 300% of federal poverty guidelines, with non-recurrent short term benefits to meet an extraordinary episode of need that arises from a government declared (federal, state, county, or tribal government) natural disaster, emergency, or pandemic. As per the regulation at 45 CFR part 206.10 (b) (1), NRSTB must meet the following criteria:

1. Are designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need;
2. Are not intended to meet recurrent or ongoing needs;
3. Will not extend beyond four (4) months;

NRSTB provided in the context of a governmentally-declared natural disaster, emergency, or pandemic will be limited to \$5,000.00 per household, for each event (TANF assistance eligible participants may not receive duplicate NRSTB simultaneously). Eligible Tribal TANF participant families and TANF eligible Indian families who meet the 300% income eligibility criteria must also demonstrate an episode of need in order to be eligible for receipt of NRSTB in this context.

SECTION XXIX **INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS**

The SSTTP will allow needy family participants to accumulate assets through a program of individual or family group development accounts per federal regulations.

SECTION XXX **EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR SERVICE AREA**

IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

The Shingle Springs Service Area has been and continues to be impacted by the pandemic; specifically, county restrictions, and shutdowns. The pandemic led to many people losing employment due to shutdowns, county restrictions, lack of child care, and school closures which led to a high rate of unemployment and housing insecurities. The impact of the pandemic was extremely challenging for SSTTP cash aided participants due to the additional barriers resulting in the need for Tribal TANF services.

IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS BY COUNTY

El Dorado and Placer County are rural with forest terrain which is susceptible to fire, extreme weather and other natural disasters which can cause power outages, energy black outs, lack of transportation availability, mandatory evacuations, decreased or loss of employment availability, and housing barriers. Over the past several years these counties have experienced multiple state declared wildfires, preventative power outages, mudslides, and a failing dam system that caused flooding and related state declared disasters.

Sacramento County, while not directly impacted by wildfires, was impacted by toxic air quality resulting from wildfire smoke. Housing availability was impacted by those fleeing the wildfire areas

Yolo County being in a rural area is susceptible to fire and other natural disasters which can cause power outages, PG&E black outs, lack of transportation availability, mandatory evacuations, employment availability, and housing barriers.

EL DORADO COUNTY

El Dorado County is a county located in the former Gold Country of California, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Its 2020 population was estimated to be 191,185. The county seat is Placerville.

According to the United States Census Bureau in 2020, there were an estimated 191,185 people, 91,660 housing units and 70,974 families residing in the county. The population density was 106 people per square mile. The racial makeup of the county was 88.6% White, 13.2% Hispanic or

Latino, 1% Black or African American, 1.3% Native American, 4.8% Asian, 0.2% Pacific Islander, 4.0% from other races and 3.9% from two or more races.¹

The census states that the median income for a household in the county in 2020 was \$83,377, and the per capita income for the county was \$42,749. In 2020, about 8.4% of the population were below the poverty line.²

According to the U.S. Census Bureau the county has a total area of 1,788 square miles, of which, 1,711 square miles of it is land and 77 square miles of it (4.32%) is water. El Dorado Transit runs local service in Placerville and surrounding areas (as far east as Pollock Pines). Commuter service into Sacramento and Folsom is also provided.

BlueGo is the transit operator for the South Lake Tahoe area. Service also runs into the state of Nevada.

PLACER COUNTY

Placer County is a county located in both the Sacramento Valley and Sierra Nevada regions of California, in what is known as the Gold Country. It stretches from the suburbs of Sacramento to Lake Tahoe and the Nevada border.

Placer County was home to the peaceful Maidu and Miwok Native Americans for hundreds of years before the discovery of gold in 1848 brought hordes of miners from around the world.

Placer County took its name from the Spanish word for sand or gravel deposits containing gold.

According to the United States Census Bureau in 2020, there were an estimated 348,432 people, 168,919 housing units and 142,855 families residing in the county. The population density was 247.6 people per square mile. The racial makeup of the county was 83.9% White, 14.4% Hispanic or Latino, 1.9% Black or African American, 1.1 % Native American, 8.2% Asian, 0.3% Pacific Islander, and 4.6% from two or more races.³

According to the U.S. Census Bureau in 2020, the median income for a household in the county was \$89,691. The per capita income for the county was \$43,759. In 2020, about 6.5% of the population were below the poverty line.⁴

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,503 square miles, of which, 1,404 square miles is land, and 98 square miles (6.55%) is water. Watercourses in Placer County include the American River and Bunch Creek. Lake Tahoe has 40.96% of its surface area in Placer County, more than in any of the four other counties in which it lies.

Placer County Transit provides basic bus service primarily along the I-80 corridor between Alta Arden and Watt Ave. The cities of Auburn, Lincoln, and Roseville have their own local transit service.

¹ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: El Dorado County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/eldoradocountycalifornia/PST045221)

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/eldoradocountycalifornia/PST045221>

² [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: El Dorado County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/eldoradocountycalifornia/PST045221)

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/eldoradocountycalifornia/PST045221>

³ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Placer County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/placercountycalifornia/PST045221)

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/placercountycalifornia/PST045221>

⁴ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Placer County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/placercountycalifornia/PST045221)

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/placercountycalifornia/PST045221>

Gold Country Stage (Nevada County) provides a connection between Auburn and Grass Valley. Tahoe Area Regional Transit operates in Truckee (Nevada County), Tahoe City and along the North Shore of Lake Tahoe to Incline Village, Nevada.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Sacramento County's seat is the city of Sacramento, which is also the state capital. As of 2020, the population of this county was estimated to be 1,585,055.⁵

The Sacramento metropolitan area consists of four counties with Sacramento County being the largest. The County covers about 994 square miles in the middle of the California Central Valley, a large agricultural region. Sacramento County extends from the low delta lands between the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River north to about ten miles beyond the State Capitol and east to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

According to the United States Census Bureau in 2020, there were an estimated 1,585,055 people, 578,937 housing units, and 543,025 families residing in the county. The population density was 1,470.8 people per square mile. The racial makeup of the county was 62.8% White, 23.6% Hispanic or Latino, 10.9% Black or African American, 1.5% Native American, 17% Asian, 1.3% Pacific Islander, and 6.5% from two or more races.⁶

The median household income in the county was \$ 67,151. The per capita income for the county was \$32,751. About 12.5% of the population were below the poverty line, .⁷

According to the U.S. Census Bureau the county has a total area of 995 square miles of which 966 square miles of it is land and 30 square miles of it (3%) is water. Most of the county is at an elevation close to sea level, with some areas below sea level. Hills along the eastern boundary rise to several hundred feet. Major watercourses in the county include the American River, Sacramento River and Dry Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento River.

Sacramento Regional Transit (RT) provides bus and light rail service in Sacramento and nearby communities. Sacramento hosts 42.9 miles of light rail. The cities of Elk Grove, Folsom and Galt also operate their own bus lines. In addition, the transit agencies of the adjacent counties have routes operating into downtown Sacramento or connecting with the light rail system.

Greyhound and Amtrak both serve Sacramento County.

United States Census data for Sacramento County from the year 2020 indicates that Native American households are significantly under the median monthly household income, family household income, and Per capita Income. This clearly indicates significant unemployment or under-employment as compared to the whole population. This is true for various reasons and will be a barrier the SSTTP will need to address. (Of note, certain elements of census data included in previous plans are not yet available).

⁵ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Sacramento County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221)
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221>

⁶ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Sacramento County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221)
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221>

⁷ [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Sacramento County, California](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221)
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/sacramentocountycalifornia/PST045221>

YOLO COUNTY

Yolo County is a county located in the Sacramento Valley. In the original act of 1850, the name was spelled "Yola." *Yolo* is a Native American name variously believed to be a corruption of a tribal name *Yo-loy* meaning "a place abounding in rushes" or of the name of the chief, *Yodo*, or of the village of Yodoi. Yolo County was one of the original counties of California, created in 1850 at the time of statehood. Its county seat is Woodland, CA⁸.

Much of Yolo County remains a relatively rural agricultural region. This is evidenced by the multibillion-dollar state of California tomato industry that accounts for 90% of the canned and processed tomato production in the United States and 35% worldwide, to which Yolo County is a major contributor⁹.

According to the United States Census Bureau in 2020, it was estimated that Yolo County had a population of 216,403. The ethnic makeup of Yolo County was 74% White, 31.9% Hispanic or Latino, 3% African American, 1.8% Native American, 15.1% Asian, 0.6% Pacific Islander, and 5.6% from two or more races^{10, 11}.

The median income for a household in the county was \$ 70,228. The per capita income for the county was \$34,515. About 14.8 of the population were below the poverty line.¹²

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,024 square miles (2,650 km²), of which 1,015 square miles (2,630 km²) is land and 8.9 square miles (23 km²) (0.9%) is water. Yolobus (Yolo County Transportation District) runs buses throughout Yolo County and into Sacramento, and Sacramento International Airport. The University of California, Davis and the city of Davis jointly run Unitrans, a combination local city bus and campus shuttle. Fairfield-Suisun Transit Line 30 also stops in Davis on its runs between Fairfield (Solano County) and Sacramento. Amtrak has a station in Davis.

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY

The service population of Sacramento County resides primarily in an urban area. According to statistics from the State of California Employment Development Department^{13,14}, unemployment in Sacramento County is at 4.8%. Moreover, the unemployment rate for Native American people in this same area exceeds the rate of the general population, often exceeding 50%. This rate can be higher still as underemployment and/or part-time employment is typically not captured in unemployment statistics. While community services and public transportation are more readily available in an urban area, higher costs for housing, child care and other basic needs, higher crime rates in low income areas and the stress of living in a denser population create a different set of barriers to self-sufficiency.

⁸ Wikipedia- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yolo_County,_California

⁹ California Directory- <http://www.calif.com/counties/yolo-county.php>

¹⁰ United States Census Bureau – 2017 American Community Survey
<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Yolo County, California
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/yolocountycalifornia/PST045221>

¹² U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Yolo County, California
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/yolocountycalifornia/PST045221>

¹³ California Employment Development - <https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/geography/sacramento-county.html>

Sacramento is a transportation center whose largest employment sector has historically been federal, state, and local government. Today agriculture and mining have been surpassed by information technology service, leisure and hospitality, education and health services, and construction. One upcoming Native American gaming casino located in Elk Grove, CA offers limited employment in the food service, hospitality and gaming industries. Technology-related companies such as Apple, Intel and Hewlett-Packard are among the Sacramento area's largest employers, due to a proximity to research centers and a well-educated labor pool. Labor Market Data provided by the Employment Development Department show the county's fastest-growing employment areas expected from 2018 to 2028 are in solar installation and in health care services.

The service population of El Dorado and Placer counties resides primarily in rural areas. With current unemployment pegged at 3.9% and 3.3% respectively¹⁵. Our assessment, based on work opportunities in the counties, is that there are rural issues which cause greater than average rate of unemployment for Native American people due to remoteness and lack of opportunity. Public transportation is inaccessible to most participants and where transportation is available, resident Tribal citizens may be miles from the closest bus stop. The rural locations, lack of community services, disproportionate poverty rates, high levels of unemployment, inaccessibility of services and the low levels of educational attainment and cultural norms that do not necessarily embrace the ideas of mainstream society present severe challenges that act as barriers to self-sufficiency.

El Dorado is located in the central Sierra Nevada Mountains, east of Sacramento. Considered one of the most diversified recreational areas in California, the El Dorado National Forest is one of the most heavily used wilderness areas in the nation. Not surprisingly, the county economy is heavily dependent on recreation and tourism. Other employment growth areas include office and administrative support occupations, and education (nursing instructors and teachers, communications teachers, biological science teachers). One Native American gaming casino is located in Shingle Springs, and offers limited employment in the food service, hospitality and gaming industries.

Placer County geography of the county encompasses the grasslands of Gold Country, the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range, and numerous rivers, lakes, state and national parks, and ski resorts. The county economy is focused on recreation and tourism, with a ski resort ranked as the number one employer in the county . Employment growth areas include technology (multi-media, animators, Network systems, data communications analysts) and education (nursing instructors and teachers, (Communications teachers, biological science teachers).

The service population of Yolo County resides primarily in rural areas with the unemployment in Yolo County being at 4.2% in December of 2021 ¹⁶. We assume the unemployment rate for self-declared Native Americans and individuals who have claimed two or more races may be greater due to the geographic area. Public and private transportation may be inaccessible or limited due to the rural area. When transportation is available, the distance between home and employment may cause barriers and decrease employment availability. The rural locations limit the access to community and educational services, which may lead to low education fulfillment and higher unemployment which will act as a barrier to self-sufficiency.

¹⁵ Employment Development Department- Labor Market Information Division- [https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/sacr\\$pd.pdf](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/sacr$pd.pdf)

¹⁶ State of California Employment Development Department - <https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>

Yolo County is located in the Sacramento Valley region. The economy of Yolo County is specialized in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, educational Services, and Public Administration. Some of the county’s leading employers include local County, City, and State entities. One Native American gaming casino located in Brooks, and offers employment in the food service, hospitality, and gaming industries. Along with Education related services at the University of California Davis. Employment growth in this area include government, professional and business services, education and healthcare, and wholesale and retail trade.

While all four counties have varied employment opportunities, many of the Tribal citizens lack the foundation of educational basic skills and access to funding for adequate training, notwithstanding the barriers of transportation and child care.

The SSTTP will align job training and education opportunities with the local labor market of these service areas. The SSTTP will coordinate with economic development agencies and with local economic development corporations, as well as develop, foster and maintain linkages with local employment development departments, workforce investment boards and businesses for training and employment opportunities.

The SSTTP will employ Career Counselors to provide participants with career assessment/exploration opportunities, and seek to develop employment opportunities within the service area. The Career Counselor will network extensively with local training providers and local businesses to provide participants with employment and training opportunities that align with occupations where employees are in high demand.

SECTION XXXI
MANDATORY WORK REQUIREMENTS

SSTTP agrees to satisfy the following minimum work participation rates as established by the SSTTP.

SECTION XXXII
TRIBAL WORK PARTICIPATION RATES

Work Participation Rates (All Families except non-need caretakers)	
FY 2022	38%
FY 2023	40%
FY 2024	40%
FY 2025	40%

SECTION XXXIII
MINIMUM WEEKLY AVERAGE PARTICIPATION HOURS

Single Parent Family:

Fiscal Year	Minimum Number of Hours
2022	20
2023	20
2024	20

Two Parent Families:

Fiscal Year	Minimum Number of Hours
2022	32
2023	32
2024	32
2025	32

At least one parent in a two-parent family will be required to participate in a work activity for the minimum number of hours per week as listed above. The SSTTP allows either parent to participate in a work activity to meet the minimum requirements or the work hours of both parents can be combined to meet the minimum requirement.

SECTION XXXIV
APPROVED WORK ACTIVITIES

Based on current economic conditions and availability of other resources, the approved list of work activities noted below will support families in removing barriers and will assist them in becoming self-sufficient in alignment with the resources of the Tribe and consistent with the TANF purposes.

The distance to travel to employment in any of the four counties can be a barrier to job maintenance. In order to meet TANF purposes 1 and 2, Shingle Springs Tribal TANF has found that allowing travel time to count towards work requirements encourages participants to engage in job preparation and work while maintaining a family home for the children until such time that the activity itself meets the required work hours. Therefore, all approved activities may include reasonable travel time, as defined by program policy, (not to exceed 60 minutes limit one way) to and from authorized Tribal TANF training and work sites.

The following is a list of work activities which will count towards the fulfillment of the required work participation hours.

1. Unsubsidized employment.
2. Subsidized employment.
3. Work experience.
4. Satisfactory participation and attendance in secondary school or in a course of study leading to a completion of high school equivalency (e.g., high school diploma, General Equivalency Diploma (GED), HiSet) in the case of a recipient who has not completed secondary school or previously received a high school diploma/GED.
5. Job search and or job readiness within the limitations specified at 45 CFR 286.105(b) and (c).
6. On the job training.
7. Vocational education training.
8. Post-secondary education that includes a reasonable expectation for successful completion of a degree program that will lead to unsubsidized employment.
9. Approved community work service job skills directly related to employment.
10. Education in fields of study that provide the skill knowledge and abilities needed to secure employment; and/or education which enhances skills, knowledge and abilities directly

- related to current employment (wage and skill progression).
11. Participation in a Native Employment Works (NEW) activity.
 12. Culturally relevant work activities to increase self-sufficiency such as activities which result in food or other basic needs fulfillment, products or services that may be sold to provide income or those activities that increase skills applicable to employment.
 13. The provision of child care services for children of another SSTTP participant who is participating in a SSTTP approved work activity or community services program.
 14. Apprenticeship.
 15. Domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health counseling, education and rehabilitation (non-medical) to be reevaluated on a quarterly basis with the intent of transitioning to other appropriate work activities.
 16. Training and development courses offered through the SSTTP and affiliated resources i.e., employment skills, budgeting, parenting, time management, life skills, and small business, etc.
 17. Cultural classes/activities that foster the development of positive self-esteem, self-initiative, and improve employable skills and executive function (must be part of the family's approved wellness plan and targeted at addressing identified barriers; classes cannot be used to satisfy the total required number of hours per week and not to exceed 6 hours for single parent families, and 10 hours per week for 2-parent families of work requirement per week).
 18. Participation in career pathways programs.
 19. Paid or Unpaid Internship/ externship and or volunteer work that may lead to employment opportunities.

An individual shall be considered to be engaged in work by virtue of participating in any approved work activity specified in this plan. In two parent families the SSTTP may require both parents to participate in the mandatory weekly work activities to meet the minimum weekly work participation requirement set forth in this plan.

SECTION XXXV **EXEMPTION FROM WORK PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

The following eligible TANF program participants may be exempted from the work participation requirement due to circumstances that prevent them from participating in work activities. Eligible participants who may be exempted from fulfilling the WP requirement include:

1. Pregnant woman.
2. Single parent with a child under the age of 12 months. This exemption is available up to two times during the 60-month TANF time clock.
3. Disabled parent (verified by a licensed medical authority).
4. Those caring for a disabled child or relative who requires full time care (as verified by a licensed medical authority).
5. Persons over the age of 55. SSTTP considers Native American persons reaching age 55 to be an elder and deserving of deferential treatment. Native Americans experience a lower life expectancy rate than other Americans, this factor as well as the lack of employment opportunities and transportation difficulties in the service area contribute to the adoption of this provision. Elder participants will be strongly encouraged to complete and participate in development of a family wellness plan and will be referred to internal departments for assessment and opportunities to attend workshops/classes.
6. In two-parent households, one; parent may be exempt following the birth of their child (ren), for up to twenty-four months, second parent would be required to fulfill required

weekly work hours.

SECTION XXXVI
LIMITATIONS AND SPECIAL RULES

1. The SSTTP may temporarily exempt victims of domestic violence and participants of in-patient drug/alcohol rehabilitation programs with children, from work participation requirements for a renewable period of 3 months. Domestic violence victims and in-patient rehabilitation participants will continue to receive cash assistance payments while living at a shelter or treatment center for up to 3 months.
2. With a certified written statement, cash assistance will not be terminated or reduced if a single parent with a child under the age of six (6) years old refuses or stops work activities due to the unavailability of appropriate child care within a reasonable distance from the individuals home, work, school, or training site (certification must include the time limitation for exemption). This is further defined as:
 - a. **Appropriate Child Care:** the provider meets appropriate state standards of care or an informal arrangement in which the environment is representative of the quality of care provided by others in the community
 - b. **Reasonable Distance:** If a family has no transportation, and there is limited public transportation, then the home or work site must be no more than five (5) miles from the child care provider. If the family has transportation the home or work site must be within one hour of travel distance, one way, from the child care provider
 - c. **Unsuitability of informal child care:** facility, home or provider does not meet the health and safety expectations of formal care that can lead to negligence or harm to the child
 - d. **Unavailability of appropriate affordable child care:** monthly child care costs or copayments that exceed the allowable county child care reimbursement ceiling rates.

SECTION XXXVII
GOOD CAUSE CRITERIA FOR NON-COOPERATION
WITH WORK REQUIREMENTS

Good cause involves temporary circumstances or events that reasonably prevent the participant from completing assigned work activities, pre-employment, or employment due to circumstances beyond their control. All claims of good cause must be verified and recertified monthly.

Participants who fail to participate in assigned SSTTP activities, or who fail to accept and/or maintain employment/work requirements will be subject to sanctions. The exception is when the individual participant has good cause for such failures. It is the responsibility of the participant claiming to have good cause to demonstrate and produce evidence supporting the existence of good cause. Examples of such cause include:

1. Transportation breaks down or is unavailable temporarily (until corrected).
2. Child care arrangements are unavailable or become unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances (temporary until corrected).
3. Temporary mental or physical illness of the caretaker or a dependent child as documented by a medical professional (until resolved).
4. Work activity schedule conflicts with required court appearances or incarceration (until resolved).
5. Extreme weather conditions or natural disasters such as floods, heavy snow, wildfires,

- government declared health emergency, or other serious acts of nature that temporarily prevents safe travel or has impacted the safety of the home or workplace
6. When an eligible applicant adult has to provide temporary full-time care to an immediate family member with a serious health problem as documented by a medical professional (this exclusion is limited to three cumulative months in a 24- consecutive month period).
 7. Recent death within the immediate family.
 8. Temporary loss of housing (i.e. condemned housing, fires, evictions)
 9. Other; good cause exemptions may be provided to participants who are experiencing other temporary family crisis, tragedy, or circumstances beyond the participant's control that contribute to family or participant instability. These exemptions will be determined on a case-by-case basis with approval from Quality Assurance Officer.

SECTION XXXVIII
PENALTIES FOR NON-COOPERATION

Sanctions are intended to encourage cooperation with SSTTP requirements on the part of the participants, who, without sanctions or the threat of sanctions, would fail to do so. The sanction process is progressive in the sense that it has graduated levels of response to program violations, the more serious the program violation, the more severe the sanction. A participant sanctioned at a certain level, who cures the sanction, will be at-risk of a higher level of sanction for future violations. A participant may begin again at the first sanction level after 12 months have elapsed from the date the original sanction was imposed.

If an SSTTP participant refuses to fulfill their required work activities, wellness plan or other activities mandated and agreed upon (such as substance abuse treatment, or educational programs) in the absence of good cause then the SSTTP may reduce or terminate the amount of assistance otherwise payable to the family for that parent or needy caretaker. The program may also provide limited assistance for basic needs through a voucher system for those individuals that fail to work or participate in work participation requirements, until such time as that individual resumes meeting the work requirements. The voucher system will only pay for food, utilities and shelter. Specifics regarding sanction amounts are outlined in program policy.

Any individual who refuses to complete substance abuse testing will have his/her benefit terminated and family placed on voucher system. Any individual who refuses to participate in substance abuse/mental health counseling and/or treatment when referred by the program shall be placed on the voucher system. The policies and procedures for penalties are further defined in program guidelines.

SECTION XXXIX
TERMINATION DUE TO FRAUD

In cases where there has been a termination for deliberate fraud, (i.e., collecting TANF benefits from multiple sources, knowingly providing fraudulent information when participant was receiving SSI, was employed independently, or deliberate withholding or misstating resource information), the program, at the discretion of the Executive Director, may declare the participants ineligible to receive assistance. The period of time for ineligibility will be based on the outcome of an investigation by the SSTTP Quality Assurance Team and will reflect the severity of the fraud and the number of occurrences. This process is further defined in the SSTTP policies and procedures.

SECTION XL
RIGHTS AND DUE PROCESS

Shingle Springs offers TANF cash assisted participants a progressive appeals process as follows. During the application process all individuals shall be advised of their right to appeal an adverse decision or sanction due to the Program's decision to deny, reduce, or terminate assistance/services, or to place the individual on the voucher system. The Program will provide individuals at risk of losing benefits a notice of adverse action 10 days before said action will begin. 1st Level: All appeals must be in writing and submitted to the supervisor/site manager within ten days of receiving the notice. Upon receipt of the appeal, counted as day one, the supervisor/site manager has ten (10) days within which to notify the recipient of a decision in writing. 2nd Level: An appeal of an adverse decision may be made by the participant within ten (10) days of receipt of the decision of the supervisor/site manager. The appeal of the adverse action shall be directed to the Executive Director or Quality Assurance Officer. 3rd Level: The Executive Director or Quality Assurance Officer shall schedule a hearing time, date and place of the hearing shall be mutually convenient to the Executive Director, Quality Assurance Officer and the participant. Transportation costs may be provided if need is established. Upon receipt of the letter of appeal, counted as day one, the Executive Director or Quality Assurance Officer shall render a decision and notify the participant in writing within ten (10) days. All appeal periods are in calendar days. Disputes involving Program participants will be resolved fairly, quickly, and at the lowest level possible.

SECTION XLI
CONFIDENTIALITY OF PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

The SSTTP will take such steps it deems necessary to restrict the use and disclosure of information about participants and families receiving assistance. The SSTTP will not release or disclose participant information except as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Confidential participant information includes all verbal, written, printed or electronic display of data that can identify any specific participant's name, SSN or address. Confidential data cannot be released in any format, including mailing labels; PC downloads on disk, spreadsheet, or other computer printouts, unless specifically authorized by the Executive Director.

SECTION XLII
PARTICIPANT CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

All SSTTP staff will receive training on keeping participant information confidential. Each employee will be required to sign a statement acknowledging the rights of all SSTTP applicants and participants to complete and full confidentiality. By signing this statement staff will acknowledge their responsibility to uphold and maintain participant confidentiality. SSTTP will also require that our partners conduct these procedures to ensure they uphold similar standards regarding participant confidentiality. In accordance with established Memorandums of Understanding, the SSTTP the County, and the Department of Social Services will be authorized for and have access to specific data necessary for the administration of the TANF Programs as well as to assure that a family receiving assistance under the plan(s) does not receive duplicative assistance from other Federal, State or Tribal Programs funded under this part.

The SSTTP will provide information to Tribal, State, or Federal law enforcement officers involved in carrying out public assistance laws or any investigation, criminal or civil proceedings connected with administering the agency's benefit programs. If the officer furnishes the name and SSN in any

case of fraud referred for legal action by the program, the agency will provide the current address of any participants to a law enforcement officer. Otherwise, no information will be provided to law enforcement officers on participants from case records, conversations or sources obtained because the person is or has been a participant of the program except as required by Federal law or regulation.

SECTION XLIII
VERBAL AND WRITTEN INFORMATION

All information related to a participant's eligibility is documented in the participant's case file and is kept with other written information pertaining to the participant's case. The content of the file is handled by the Family Advocate but may be reviewed by the Executive Director and other department management staff, if deemed necessary for the administration of the program. All files/records are maintained in a locked room in locked file cabinets.

SECTION XLIV
INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

The SSTTP will disseminate administrative rules to safeguard all confidential information of participants in relation to:

1. Establishing parentage.
2. Establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations.
3. Enforcing child custody or visitation orders.

SECTION XLV
SHINGLE SPRINGS TRIBAL TANF PROGRAM OPTIONS

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians has chosen the following options:

1. May require applicants to complete drug and/or alcohol testing at intake (random testing may be conducted). A positive test will require participants to participate in a related assessment and attend possible counseling sessions or enroll in a rehabilitation program. SSTTP assistance will continue through a vendor payment system, or the program may deny, reduce or terminate benefits to the individual until compliant. (cash assisted participants only)
2. All school age children shall be required to attend school full time with regular attendance. Verification of enrollment and current status is required. Cash benefits may be reduced until child (ren) return to school or attend regularly. The SSTTP may report lack of school attendance to proper local authorities. (cash assisted participants only)
3. May use State MOE allocation to extend Tribal TANF cash assistance to children in families where the parents have reached the federal 60-month time limit. (cash assisted participants only)
4. Will develop MOUs and or MOAs with internal and external partners to provide services to the SSTTP participants on a fee for service basis.
5. Will allow participants to accumulate assets through individual or family group development accounts. (cash assisted participants only)
6. May provide up to \$500.00 clothing allowance at the beginning of each school year for every eligible child that attends school.(cash assisted participants only)
7. SSTTP may provide additional services for school supplies with a maximum amount of \$200 per eligible child per school year. (cash assisted participants only)
8. May provide good grade incentives for needy youth participants up to \$200.00 per child, per

- semester not to exceed twice per school year. (cash assisted participants only)
9. May provide non-cash supportive services to non-needy caregiver(s) to benefit the child (ren) in their care. (non-needy caretaker cases only)
 10. Will deny benefits to individuals for two years from date of conviction for felony drug related crimes. If the individual completes a drug rehabilitation program and is free of drugs for one year, then the individual may resume benefits (if eligible). The one year begins the first day the individual enters a treatment program. (cash assisted participants only)
 11. There will be no limit to the number of eligible family members in the assistance unit.
 12. SSTTP will provide welfare related services to eligible Native Americans and their families who meet all SSTTP requirements, in an unbiased and fair method according to customs and traditions.
 13. SSTTP will provide comprehensive - prevention based services and activities for youth under TANF purposes three (3) and four (4) for TANF assisted and other eligible youth as established by the eligibility guidelines in the programs operating policies and procedures. Prevention activities will include pregnancy prevention education, self-esteem building, employment skills, literacy and communication and coping skills. The SSTTP may coordinate programs with outside Tribal, Local, County and State organizations, as well as, local school, high school, and community colleges in an effort to leverage resources and employment services for Native youth.
 14. May provide culturally relevant activities and services that further TANF purposes 3 and 4 by supporting participants' connections to community, and tradition, and expanding their social networks as means to build self-esteem, decrease isolation, and strengthen one's sense of identity. Programming includes Native life skills training, arts and crafts, storytelling, leadership skills, and community building and will incorporate exposure to native languages.
 15. May provide incentives to eligible TANF cash aid program participants, with a lifetime maximum of \$5,000.00 for completion of an Associates or Bachelor's Degree Program, or for completion of requirements necessary in obtaining a license or certificate in a trade. May provide a good grade incentive for eligible adults attending post-secondary education facility with a maximum \$200.00 per semester not to exceed twice per school year. These specific educational goals must be assigned in the Family Wellness Plan. The amounts specific to each of these accomplishments will be outlined in the programs operating policies and procedures. (cash assisted participants only).
 16. May provide employment support incentives with a lifetime maximum of \$2,500.00 for participants obtaining and maintaining full time employment, while on assistance, leading to financial stability and/ or maintaining employment for a period of six (6) to twelve (12) months. The amounts specific to each of these accomplishments will be outlined in the programs operating policies and procedures (cash assisted participants only).
 17. May provide families with up to \$400.00 newborn assistance to approved cases for a newly born child. This assistance will aid the family in obtaining necessary items for the newborn child. Once per birth of newborn child while on the program. (cash assisted participant families only)
 18. May provide child care assistance to non-needy caretaker relatives for purposes of supporting the care-taker in maintaining employment and ability to care for children. (non-needy caretaker cases only)
 19. May provide an additional monthly grant in the amount of \$200.00 to income eligible families engaged in approved work activities with children under 36 months old for purposes of providing children items such as diapers, baby wipes, and other necessities. (as

- funds permit) (cash assisted participants only)
20. Will provide an additional \$150.00 per month to cash assistance eligible mothers expecting a child beginning the first month of the third trimester of pregnancy. (cash assisted participants only)

SECTION XLVI
FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY ASSURANCE

For each year in which the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians receives or expends TANF funds, the Tribe will comply with the fiscal accountability provision of section 5 (f) (1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act 25 U.S.C. 5305 (f) (1) pertaining to the submission of a single-agency audit report as required by Chapter 75 of Title 31, U.S. Code.

SECTION XLVII
DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING


The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians will comply with all federal statutory and regulatory data collection and reporting requirements pertaining to the Tribal TANF Program.

SECTION XLVIII
RETROCESSION PROVISION

In the event the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians elects to retrocede the TANF Program, the Shingle Springs Tribe will comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements pertaining to retrocession as outlined at 45 CFR Part 286 and the Social Security Act.

SECTION XLIX
CERTIFICATION

Respectfully submitted as authorized by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians.


Regina Cuellar, Tribal Chairperson
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

5/1/23
Date