

TANF Policy 32 – Education as Participation (GED and Vocational Education)

1. Vocational Educational Training (Voc. Ed). This is defined as organized educational programs that are directly related to the preparation of individuals for employment in current or emerging occupations requiring training. Voc. Ed must be supervised on an ongoing basis no less frequently than daily and may include work-focused general education and language instruction. Unsupervised study hours are allowed. One unsupervised study hour is allotted for one credit hour in “for-credit” programs. In non-credit programs, up to two unsupervised study hours per day attended is allotted. Unsupervised study hours cannot exceed hours of attendance in training and cannot exceed 10 hours per week (see TANF policy 03).

Voc. Ed includes local and community colleges, state and local universities, vocational schools, approved state recognized providers, and private providers funded by the Workforce Development Board (DWDB) system.

Pursuit of a graduate degree or second four-year college degree will not count toward E & T participation.

Vocational Education is a core activity and clients have a lifetime limit of 12 months.

Blevins Delaware Law (Satisfies client participation and enables payment for contractor)

This applies after clients exhaust their 12 month limit in Voc. Ed.

Allows clients to exceed the federal 12 month limit who meet the following criteria:

- The client does not hold a baccalaureate degree
 - The post-secondary education up to the baccalaureate level, or vocational education is pursued through an accredited or approved school program.
 - The client is enrolled with enough credit hours to have full-time student status and is in good standing as it relates to attendance and achievement as defined by the program the person is attending.
 - The combination of credit hours and work hours shall equal at least 20 hours per week while the program is in session (this does not include study/homework hours) The work requirement may be met through work experience, work-study, internships, externships, or through work. If possible, during scheduled breaks, the work requirement will be the same as for other program participants, with work experience related to the field of study. However, if the student is enrolled full-time for the next semester and work activity placement cannot be arranged for the duration of the break in classes, it may be excused. This does not include the summer break only the Winter and Spring.
2. Satisfactory Attendance at Secondary School or in a GED Program (SASS). This is defined as regular attendance, in accordance with the requirements of the secondary school or course of study, at a secondary school or in a course of study leading to a High School Diploma or GED. This only is applicable for clients who have not already received their High School Diploma/GED and this must be supervised on an ongoing basis.

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Clients under 20 years old: SASS is a core activity. Client's full time participation enables client to meet participation (regardless of required hours). Study/Homework hours are not considered for participation hours.

Clients 20 and older: SASS is a non-core activity. Non-core activities are counted after client achieves 20 hours of core activities.

Blevins Delaware Law (Satisfies client participation and enables payment for contractor)

Allows clients to participate in SASS and meet participation when the following criteria are met:

- The client does not hold a baccalaureate degree
- The secondary school or course of study is pursued through an accredited or Delaware Department of Education approved school program.
- The client is enrolled with enough credit hours to have full-time student status and is in good standing as it relates to attendance and achievement as defined by the program the person is attending.
- The client must combine SASS hours with work hours and the total shall equal no less than 20 hours per week while the program is in session (this does not include study/homework hours) This work requirement may be met through work experience, work-study, internships, externships, or through work. During scheduled breaks, the work requirement will be the same as for other program participants.
- SASS is never a standalone activity (some work hours must be completed by the client in order to meet their required hours) unless the client is 19 or younger
- Study/Homework hours are not considered for participation hours
- Hours to be counted as SASS within GED programs are only hours spent on basic academic skills (reading, writing, and math).

For example:

Program Get a GED's schedule is:

Time	Topic
9:00-10:00	GED Prep Math
10:00-11:00	GED Prep Reading
11:00-12:00	Life Skills
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:30	Parenting Skills

Only the time from 9-11 would be counted as SASS, the remaining hours (besides lunch) are considered Job Search Job Readiness.

For data entry purposes, actual activity hours are entered in both DOL and DCIS in appropriate activities. If study/homework hours apply, the contractor should combine the study hours and the actual education hours and enter into the appropriate activity.

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Other Educational TANF Activities:

Education Directly Related to Employment - Education related to a specific occupation, job, or job offer. This is a non core activity and may only be utilized by clients who have not attained a GED or High School diploma.

Nineteen and younger: Twenty hours a week of satisfactory performance fulfills their TANF (E & T) requirement.

Job Skills Training Directly Related to Employment - Training or education for job skills required by an employer to provide an individual the ability to obtain employment or to advance or adapt to the changing demands of the workplace. This is a non-core activity.