

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

**SUSAN G. OSBORNE** • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

March 28, 2022

# **Dear County Directors of Social Services**

- Attention: Work First Program Administrators, Managers and Supervisors
- Subject: Suspended Work First Sanctions and Terminations
- Priority: Time Sensitive

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this letter is to provide updated instructions pertaining to suspending sanctions and terminations of Work First Cash Assistance cases. Counties are advised that the Work First Cash Assistance sanction suspensions have been extended until 06/30/2022. Counties can refer to the most recent <u>Work First Cash Assistance Sanctions</u> DCDL and the <u>Temporary Suspension of Work First Cash Assistance Terminations</u> (Amended) Administrative Letter for more information.

#### II. POLICY PROCEDURES

Active Work First Cash Assistance suspended sanctions on existing cases must be reassessed.

#### III. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

NC FAST systematically updated active cases and pending closure cases with sanction start date of 4/1/2022 to 7/1/2022.

- County staff will use the <u>Completing Manual Reactivations Job Aid</u> to reactivated cases on the <u>20220324 Sanction Extension PendingClosure Cases</u> report. This action will generate a notice to be sent to families.
- County staff will review and accept change decisions on the <u>20220324 Sanction Extension Active Cases</u> report. This action will generate a notice to be sent to families.
- Verify continued eligibility no later than 3/31/2022. Counties will need contact their Continuous Quality Insurance Specialists for assistances.

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## **New Applications**

Suspended sanctions for new applications must be created and entered in NC FAST by county staff for the appropriate time frame with a future start date of 07/01/2022.

## **Terminations of On-Going Cases**

Participants must be notified by 06/01/2022 of their right to a hearing prior to termination of their case.

## IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon receipt begin implementation procedures.

Submit any questions regarding this policy to DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

## Sincerely,

Carled West

Carla West, Senior Director for Economic Security Division of Social Services, Economic and Family Services Section

## EFS-WF-03-2022