



Increase Basic Cash Assistance

What is Colorado Works?

Colorado Works is Colorado's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The program aims to strengthen families' economic and social stability by providing basic cash assistance, connecting families with resources, and attaching those with the ability to work to employment opportunities. On average, a family participates in Colorado Works for eight months.

What is basic cash assistance (BCA)?

BCA works directly to break down barriers to family stability and employment by helping participants pay for transportation, housing, childcare, food, and other necessities. The average BCA amount is currently \$462/month for a household with one adult and two children.

What is the proposal to increase BCA?

The State Department of Human Services has proposed increasing BCA for Colorado Works Participants by 10 percent, or an average of \$46 per month. The Colorado Human Services Board will consider this proposal in June 2018.

Why increase BCA?

The BCA amount has been stagnant since 2009. It has not kept pace with inflation or increases in the minimum wage. The proposed increase will help the most vulnerable Coloradans avoid falling even further behind. Research shows that when families' income increases, children's education and health outcomes and future earning capacity improve dramatically.

Did you know?

12.5 percent of Colorado Works participants are experiencing homelessness.

*Think about what a 10 percent increase in your income would mean to your family.
For Colorado Works participants, an extra \$46 each month means:*

- One month of diapers
- One week of infant formula
- Nine meals for family of four
- Two weeks' worth of gasoline
- RTD discount fare monthly pass
- Internet access for one month
- Period products for three months
- Four 6-packs of socks
- Kids waterproof winter boots
- Cellular service for a month

For more information please contact:

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