

FIP for Minor Parents

Who is a Minor Parent?

You are a minor parent if you are a parent age 17 or younger **and** have never been married (or the marriage was annulled).

Can a Minor Parent Get FIP?

Yes, if you live with your parent or legal guardian **or** show that you have a good reason for not living with a parent or legal guardian. This is called “**good cause.**”

What Are Some Reasons for Good Cause?

You may have good cause if:

- Your parents or legal guardian are:
 - Dead
 - Missing
 - Living in another state
- You are in the foster care supervised apartment living program.
- You are in the Job Corps solo parent program.
- You live in a maternity home or other licensed adult-supervised supportive living arrangement.
- Your parents or legal guardian refuse to let you live with them **and** you live with a relative age 21 or over.
- You or your child’s health or safety would be in danger.
- You can show other reasons why living with your parents or legal guardian would stop you from becoming self-supporting and a responsible parent.

How Do I Ask for Good Cause?

To ask for good cause:

- Tell your Department of Human Services Income Maintenance worker why you think you have good cause.
- Give your worker proof of the good cause.
- Tell your worker if you need help or extra time to get the proof.

Some examples of proof are:

- Court, police, medical or social services records.
- Signed statements from your doctor, friends, relatives or others who know about your reason for good cause.
- Notarized statement from your parents or legal guardian that they refuse to allow you and your child to live with them.

Your worker will tell you if more than one kind of proof is needed and when it is needed. Your worker can help you get the proof or suggest how to get it.

Be sure to tell your worker if you need help or more time to get the proof.

What Happens If I Have Good Cause?

If you prove good cause and meet all of the other requirements to get FIP:

- You will get FIP for yourself and your child.
- You will have to attend Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) or other family development training.