

**RULES  
OF  
THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
FAMILY ASSISTANCE DIVISION**

**CHAPTER 1240-01-56  
PILOT PROJECTS - FAMILIES FIRST PROGRAM**

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**1240-01-56-.01 PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY PILOT PROGRAM.**

- (1) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 71-3-104(a)(2), the Department shall operate a two-year pilot program establishing an optional alternative temporary assistance pathway offering enhanced cash assistance and/or enhanced support services for families with individuals who are actively pursuing a degree, professional certification, or other educational advancement.
- (2) Definitions.
  - (a) “Enhanced cash assistance” means twice the amount of cash assistance for which the family would qualify under Chapter 1240-01-50.
  - (b) “Enhanced support services” means services provided to address barriers or other impediments to an individual’s pursuit of educational advancement or ability to obtain and maintain employment, including, but not limited to, services such as vehicle repair, dental services, and optical services.
- (3) In addition to the eligibility requirements of T.C.A. § 71-3-104(a)(1) for temporary assistance under the Families First Program, to participate in this pilot program:
  - (a) An individual must be actively participating in the Families First work requirement; and
  - (b) An individual must be actively pursuing a degree, professional certification, or other educational advancement.
- (4) A family may elect that all enhanced temporary assistance for which the family qualifies under this pilot program be provided as enhanced support services, rather than enhanced cash assistance.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-5-201, et seq.; 71-1-105; and 71-3-104(a)(2). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 2, 1996; effective February 15, 1997. Public necessity rule filed July 2, 2007; expired December 14, 2007. Repeal filed October 1, 2007; effective December 15, 2007. New rule filed October 13, 2023; effective January 11, 2024.