

Manual Transmittal

Arkansas Department of Workforce Services Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Act 98 of 2011 passed by the 88th General Assembly “requires state agencies to review administrative rules to ensure the use of respectful language regarding disabilities and for other purposes.” Subsection (b) (1) of Act 98 describes the language that shall be avoided or referenced. Subsection (b) (3) specifically mentions the language that shall replace any inappropriate language from subsection (b) (1). The law states in subsection (c) (3) if a state agency identifies a use of an inappropriate term under subdivision (b) (1) of this section in a rule, it shall promulgate a revision to the rule to replace the inappropriate term with a term under subdivision (b) (3) of this section.

Inappropriate words:

- “Disabled”;
- “Developmentally disabled”;
- “Mentally disabled”;
- “Mentally ill”;
- “Mentally retarded”;
- “Handicapped”;
- “Cripple”; and
- “Crippled”.

Program policies must be changed to use the words:

- “Individuals with disabilities”;
- “Individuals with developmental disabilities”;
- “Individuals with mental illness”; and
- “Individuals with intellectual disabilities”.

Effective June 1, 2012, the TEA/Work Pays policy pages 9, 17-20, and 34 are revised to change the term disabled to the appropriate terms outlined in Act 98 of 2011.

Arkansas' Title IV – A State Plan Section 5 and Arkansas Work Verification Plan page 26, 27 will have the same changes.

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