

FAMILY VIOLENCE OPTION WAIVER

The federal government allows individual state’s Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) programs to elect to participate in the option to waive certain program requirements. Colorado selected the Family Violence Option (FVO), which may waive some program requirements for individuals who have been identified as victims of family (domestic) violence.

Program Requirements that may be waived include:

Cooperation with Child Support (Good Cause)

Participation with Workforce Development (exemption from activities)

60 month limit (time clock extension)

Screening for Domestic Violence

Eligibility workers and Case Managers must inform clients about domestic violence services and FVO waivers. Each applicant is screened during the interview process. The **Colorado Works Domestic Violence Screening Tool** is used to determine if the program requirements can be waived. There must be a copy of the completed tool in each case file.

Only staff who have completed FVO training are permitted to:

1. Provide information about and screen for domestic violence
2. Assess for waiver eligibility (assessing good cause)
3. Make waiver determinations (granting good cause)
4. Review waivers and extensions
5. Consider sanctions
6. Develop/Modify an individualized plan of a client who has a waiver

Mandatory FVO Training Requirement

All Colorado Works eligibility workers, Case Managers, and other workers who have direct or indirect contact with CW families (such as managers and supervisors) must complete the FVO training at least once every 5 years.

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