COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL

is seeking comments on the attached Tribal Cash Assistance for Families plan application.

Send all questions/comments to

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8.3.2. Tribal Cash Assistance for Families

A. SERVICE AREA

Municipality of Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley service area.

B. SERVICE POPULATION

CITC Tribal TANF will serve all eligible households that are Alaska Native and American Indians.

CITC households are defined as:

1. Two Parent Households-The head of a two-parent household is defined as an individual who submits an application for the assistance unit. To be eligible for assistance the person making application for assistance must be an Alaska Native or American Indian caretaker.
2. One Parent household-The head of a one-parent household is defined as an individual who submits application for the assistance unit. To be eligible for assistance the caretaker must be Alaska Native or American Indian.
3. Child Only Household -If a parent or caretaker relative is not eligible to submit an application for themselves, but can submit an application for one or more eligible child(ren), at least one of the child(ren) must be Alaska Native or American Indian.
4. Pregnant Woman- A pregnant woman in her third trimester can submit an application for assistance and must be Alaska Native or American Indian.

Acceptable documentation of Alaska Native or American Indian eligibility can include but not limited to:

1. Letter or card from the Bureau of Indian Affairs showing enrollment number, or
2. Tribal Enrollment Card (from Federally Recognized Tribe or Village), or
3. Birth Certificate showing Alaska Native or American Indian heritage, or
4. Letter on Tribal stationary showing Alaska Native or American Indian, giving the enrollment number or indicating that the applicant is an enrolled member or a descendant of an enrolled member of the tribe or village, or
5. Notarized statement from tribal officials stating their tribal affiliation and attesting to the fact that they know the applicant's family. (used primarily in cases where non-Native children are adopted by a Native family), or
6. Baptismal Certificate indicating applicant is Alaska Native or American Indian, or
7. Health Services Statement indicating eligibility as Alaska Native or American Indian to receive IHS services, or
8. Alaska Native Corporation Shareholder Card indicating cardholder is Alaska Native.

C. ELIGIBILITY FOR CITC TANF

Only needy families, as defined in the 477 plan, may receive: (a) any form of Federally or State MOE funded "assistance" (as defined in 45 CFR 286.10); or (b) any benefits or services pursuant to TANF purposes 1 or 2, regardless of the purpose served. "Needy" means financially deprived, according to income and resource (if applicable) criteria established in the TANF plan by the Tribe to receive the particular "assistance" or service.

Participants applying for CITC Tribal TANF must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be Alaska Natives and/or American Indians;
    a. Eligible head of household must provide verification as outlined in section 8.3.2.(B) if the adult(s) are included on the Tribal TANF case
    b. At least one of the eligible children must provide verification as outlined in section 8.3.2.(B), if it is a child only case
    c. The 3rd Trimester pregnant adult must provide verification as outlined in section 8.3.2.(B)
2. US citizens or qualified alien;
3. Reside in the Municipality of Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley service area;
4. Gross income must not exceed 185% of the need standard for their household size (see appendix G)
5. Net income must not exceed the need standard for their household size (see appendix G)
6. Countable resources must not exceed $2,000, if there is someone over the age of 60 the resource limit is $3,000;
7. Applicants must cooperate with State of Alaska Child Support Services Division or claim good cause;
8. If minor parent must be attending school and be living an approved living arrangement;
9. Must not exceed the 60 month time limit on Assistance (unless qualifies for an extension); and
10. Caretaker Relative within 5th degree of relationship.

D. 185% ELIGIBILITY TEST

All applicants and recipients have their eligibility determined "prospectively". Once the incomes of each member of the economic unit are identified, exempt incomes are disregarded, and the gross monthly earned incomes of self-employed and employed individuals are computed; the monthly income of each person in the unit is totaled and compared to the 185% eligibility standard listed in Appendix G. If the assistance unit has countable income equal to or less than the 185% eligibility standard for the unit, they "pass" and are considered "needy". The 185% eligibility standards are developed by the State of Alaska and are related to the comparability requirement described in Section 8.3.2.(I)(a). All countable and disregarded income will be written within the CITC Tribal TANF Program Manual.

E. INCOME ELIGIBILITY TEST

Once the assistance unit's countable gross income from the 185% test determination has been adjusted by allowing an applicable work incentive (earned income deduction, incapacitated adult and childcare deductions, and child support payments), the total amount is compared to the appropriate need standard listed in the Needs Standards Appendix G, for the assistance unit. If the assistance unit has countable income equal to or less than the need standard for the assistance unit, they “pass”.

F. CHILD SUPPORT COOPERATION

Unless good cause is determined, CITC participants must cooperate with CITC and the State of Alaska Child Support Services Division (CSSD) to establish paternity and to establish, modify, or enforce a child support order for a dependent child per 45 CFR 286.155 and 286.75 (a)(8). CITC will interface with CSSD to capture and allocate child support payments. Up to $50.00, but not less than $10, of the monthly child support collections received will pass through to the participant and not count against the monthly cash assistance amount they receive. An applicant may not begin to receive assistance, unless good cause is determined, until he or she cooperates and has assigned all child support collection rights to CSSD while on CITC Tribal cash assistance.

G. TIME LIMIT ASSISTANCE

CITC will follow the Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 when implementing the 60-month time limit. CITC will count all previous months of TANF block grant funds provided by any State or Tribe. CITC shall disregard any month during which the adult lived in Indian Country or an Alaska Native village if the most reliable data available with respect to the month (or period including the month) indicate that at least 50 percent of the adults living in Indian Country or in the village were not employed. (“Indian Country'' shall have the meaning given in Section 1151 of Title 18, United States Code.)

H. EXEMPTION FROM THE TIME LIMIT

After 60 months of participation, a family may continue to receive assistance if CITC determines the family qualifies for a hardship or domestic violence exemption. Hardship exemptions will be limited to 20% of the current caseload. Hardship exemption will include:

1. Disability-Adults with a physical or mental inability to perform gainful activity, as verified by a medical authority;

2. Disabled Child-Caretaker relatives who are caring for a child who is experiencing a disability, as verified by a medical authority;

3. Victims of Domestic Violence-Victims of on-going or recent domestic violence, if the physical, mental or emotional well-being of the victim would be endangered by a strict application of the limit;

4. Other Hardships-It is determined by staff and, if possible, with the input of other agencies who work with the family, the loss of Temporary Assistance would result in a threat to

the health or safety of the family due to circumstances beyond their control that are preventing the adult caretakers from reaching self-sufficiency.

I. ASSISTANCE DETERMINATION

a. Comparability

CITC will minimize differences between the income limits applicable to the recipients of the State of Alaska's Alaska Temporary Assistance Program (ATAP) and recipients of the CITC Tribal TANF program for the purpose of comparability. Therefore, the CITC program has adopted the two-tier income limit test used by the State of Alaska, which is reflected in the remainder of this section. The gross countable earned and/or unearned income of self-employed and employed individuals may not exceed the state's 185% eligibility standard indicated in this plan and the countable gross income adjusted by applicable deductions, may not exceed the state's need standards.

NOTE: The state's income eligibility and need standards are adjusted annually by the same percentage as the annual January COLA increase in federal, SSI payments.) The income eligibility and need standards as they apply to the CITC Tribal TANF program through December 31, 2024 are indicated in the Needs Standard (Appendix G) and will be adjusted according to the local needs and standards. Any substantive changes in the state's standard itself will be incorporated into the CITC Tribal assistance plan for the purpose of comparability.

The amount available to a household is the difference between the income standard and need standard with work incentive deductions (earned income, child and incapacitated parent care), the shelter allowance, and the ratable reduction applied according to the conditions of the household up to the maximum assistance indicated in Section 8.3.2.(I)(b).

b. Assistance Levels

Maximum Assistance (Appendix G)

The amounts of assistance for basic living expenses may not exceed the following:

1. One Child and a Non-Needy Caretaker- For a dependent child living with a non-needy relative caretaker, $452 per month, plus $102 for each additional child;
2. One Child and a Needy Caretaker-For a dependent child living with at least one needy parent or relative caretaker, $821 per month, plus $102 for each additional child and $102 for a second needy parent if the second parent is physically or mentally unable to perform gainful activity as defined by department regulation; or
3. Pregnant Woman-For a family consisting solely of an eligible pregnant woman, $514 per month.

c. Non-Duplication of Assistance

CITC Tribal assistance recipients may not receive duplicative assistance from other State or Tribal programs funded under Part A of Title I of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, 42 U.S. § 601 et. seq.

J. DIVERSION PAYMENT

CITC offers diversion to applicants that meet the definition of "needy" as an alternative to recurring reliance on Tribal cash assistance for families with a job-ready member. Families that qualify for diversion may choose a lump sum payment in lieu of ongoing assistance. Diversion will provide short-term financial assistance to meet critical needs in order to secure or retain employment. Applicants must meet the criteria of section 8.3.2.(B), have employment secured during the diversion months or have current employment they are in danger of losing, and reside in the Municipality of Anchorage or Matanuska-Susitna Valley.

a. Based on Need

The payment amount is based upon actual, immediate needs and may not exceed three months' worth of cash assistance.

b. Reapplying For Assistance

A diversion payment will count as income if the family reapplies for Tribal cash assistance within 3 months of application received date.

c. Limitation

A family may receive diversion only once in a twelve-month period. However, the grant may be paid in more than one installment. Current cash assistance recipients are not eligible for diversion. Diversion payments are limited to four in the lifetime of the assistance unit.

K. SUPPORT SERVICES

Support services may be made available to CITC participants, directly or through their service providers or employers, to support their engagement in assigned activities, assist in the care of Tribal children, and/or to accept and maintain employment. Support services include those available for eligible Alaska Native and/or American Indians through CITC's current approved P.L. 102-477 consolidation plan for education, employment and training, and related services, which also includes transitional services, child care and workforce services. These services are provided to maximize the participant's path to self-sufficiency.

a. Self Sufficiency Support Services

- On-the job training
- Short-term job-training
- Counseling and skill building
- Job search assistance as per 45 CFR 286.105 (b) and (c)
- Job referral
- Job placement/ Subsidized Employment

- Referrals to community work service
- Transitional services including childcare assistance and post-employment services
- GED instruction
- Vocational Training
- Higher Education
- Transportation by gas allowance and/or bus pass;
- Work and training related clothing;
- Work incentives;
- Work related tools, dues, or initiation fees;
- Training related materials and supplies;
- Help with childcare expenses;
- Housing/Utility referrals and assistance
- Medical services not covered by Medicaid;
- Other items and/or services considered essential for participation.

b. Transitional Support Services

CITC participants may be eligible for support services for up to twelve months after they become employed and close the CITC case (i.e., income that exceeds the CITC TRIBAL eligibility standards, or close their case with employment).

c. Enrichment Services

Youth

Education Goals: CITC 477 staff will provide supportive services and cash/gift card incentives to Tribal children for reaching their educational goals. Achievement of this goal will be determined by the 477 Leadership.

Activity Goals: CITC 477 staff will provide cash/gift card incentives to youth completing approved program activities. Successful completion will be determined by the 477 Leadership, and will be included in the CITC 477 Policies and Procedures. All activities will be related to the four purposes of TANF.

Employment Goals: CITC 477 will provide subsidized employment opportunities to Tribal youth. Youth eligible for 477 supportive services may be eligible for unsubsidized employment work incentives. Incentives will be approved by the 477 Leadership and eligibility will be included in the CITC 477 Policies and Procedures.

Adults

Education Goals: CITC 477 staff will provide supportive services and cash/gift card incentives to Tribal adults for reaching their educational goals. Achievement of this goal will be determined by 477 Leadership.

Activity Goals: CITC 477 staff will provide cash/gift card incentives to adults completing approved activities. Successful completion will be determined by 477 Leadership. Services will be approved by the 477 Leadership.

L. SELF-SUFFICIENCY PLAN AND ASSESSMENT

Every family with a needy adult caretaker receiving Tribal cash assistance will complete a Self Sufficiency Plan in cooperation with 477 staff, tailored to the family's situation. The plan outlines the steps the family will take to increase their independence, identifies specific milestones to indicate progress, and indicates the services CITC will provide to assist the family toward meeting their goals of independence from 477. CITC will work with the family to assess skills, work experience, educational needs, and barriers to achieving independence and employability of each adult caretaker and parent who is age 18 or older.

M. WORK PARTICIPATION RATE AND HOURS

CITC 477 staff will implement work and self-sufficiency services that promote job creation, job preparation, cultural/spiritual wellness, life skills and provide job support services designed to help recipients gain and retain paid employment, lead to self-sufficiency or perform community services when paid employment is unavailable. CITC believes that the following participation rates represent realistic and appropriate standards; in light of such factors as high rate of education training deficiencies, prevalence of mental health, substance abuse issues, and a substantial long-term unemployment rate among its Tribal participant population. CITC is requesting the participation rates for the following plan years remain the same. There is a disparity of unemployed Alaska Native and American Indians compared to other populations within the service area. Child-only cases (those with non-needy adult caretakers) are exempt from the participation rate calculation and from the work requirements.

Year	All Families
10/1/2024-9/30/2025	35%
10/1/2025-9/30/2026	35%
10/1/2026-9/30/2027	35%
10/1/2027-9/30/2028	35%
10/1/2028-9/30/2029	35%

CITC believes that the following average participation hours per week reflect what can reasonably be expected from Tribal population. It is assumed that a significant number of Tribal participants may be unable to exercise the discipline needed to participate in a full week of activities.

All Families	Hours per week
10/1/2024-9/30/2025	30
10/1/2025-9/30/2026	30
10/1/2026-9/30/2027	30
10/1/2027-9/30/2028	30
10/1/2028-9/30/2029	30

N. WORK PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

CITC requires parents or caretaker relatives to participate in acceptable work activities. Non-needy adult caretakers are exempt from participation (child-only cases). Acceptable work activities include:

- Unsubsidized employment
- Basic education
- Job search assessment as per 45 CFR 286.105 (b) and (c)
- Job readiness activities as per 45 CFR 286.105 (b) and (c)
- Job skills training
- On-the-job training
- Internships
- Vocational education training (36 month maximum)
- Job sampling or work experience
- Approved community work service job skills directly related to employment
- Education in subjects in which there is a reasonable chance of obtaining employment
- Sheltered/supported work
- Work experience
- Subsidized public or private sector employment
- Providing child care service for individuals participating in community service work
- Community service activities
- Traditional subsistence activities (i.e. hunting, fishing, gathering, etc.)
- Traditional work activities (i.e. weaving, beading, carving, etc.)
- Cultural activities
- Self-employment
- Providing childcare services
- Substance abuse treatment
- Domestic Violence Counseling
- Life skills training

- Other activities developed by the 477 staff to meet general family needs or the needs of an individual Tribal participant (to include time spent applying for SSI).

O. WORK PARTICIPATION EXEMPTIONS AND JUSTIFICATIONS

A CITC 477 participant who is subject to work participation requirements may be exempt from work activities because of certain work situations or because participation would cause unreasonable hardship. Even though exempt, they are still required to complete a Family Self Sufficiency Plan. The following situations may exempt a participant from work activities:

1. They are needed in the home to care for a disabled relative who has been determined to require 24 hour care, per a medically certified provider, while alternative suitable care is being sought;
2. They are determined by a medical provider to be physically or mentally unable to perform gainful activity for a period of more than 30 days.
3. A caretaker of a child no more than one year of age;
4. A parent or caretaker, who is experiencing domestic violence where engagement in work activities could endanger a family member, interfere with the family's ability to escape the violence or its escalation, or interfere with any legal proceedings.
5. They are experiencing circumstances beyond the family's control that prevents the caretaker from participating in work activities or becoming self-sufficient and the loss of temporary cash assistance would threaten the health or safety of the family;
6. A caretaker of a child under six and affordable, appropriate, child care (or suitable informal care) is not available within reasonable distance
    a. -"affordable" is considered childcare not above the State of Alaska child care rates.
    b. -"appropriate" is childcare facilities and homes licensed by the State of Alaska or approved by CITC Child Care Program.
    c. -"reasonable distance" is child are within one-hour commuting time of activity.
    d. -"suitable informal care" is in home providers approved by the CITC Child Care Program.

P. PENALTIES

<u>Progressive Penalties</u>

Penalties are intended to induce cooperation with Tribal 477 requirements on the part of the participants who without the penalty or the threat of penalty, would fail to do so. The penalty process is progressive and unless the individual complies, the amount of reduction in a family's cash assistance may increase over time. However, the opportunity to mitigate the impact upon direct support and assistance to the needy children of affected families is built into this progressive sanction process.

CITC applies sanctions and penalties regarding cash assistance for the following requirements:

1. Family Self Sufficiency Plan-When the participant chooses not to develop, sign and comply with the Family Self-Sufficiency Plan;
2. Work Activities-When a participant is able but chooses not to take part in work activities or other self-sufficiency activities on the plan;
3. Child Support Services Non-Cooperation-When the participant does not cooperate with Child Support Services Division and has no good cause;
4. Dependent Not Attending School-When the assistance unit contains a school age dependent child not attending school or other equivalent training program, a penalty is applied to the family until the minor is back into compliance with school/training attendance, unless good cause has been determined by CITC;
5. Minor Parent Not Attending School-When a minor parent without high school diploma or GED is not attending school or equivalent training and has no good cause.

Fraud Sanction

Intentional Fraud-CITC will conduct investigative home visits to verify household composition, earned income, resources and other eligibility factors when circumstances are questionable due to conflicting information or questionable verification. Home visits results will be written and corrective action will take place when needed to correct eligibility amount determinations. When an individual incurs an intentional fraud penalty, it will result in the following: the first offense will remove the offender from the case for six months; the second offense will mean a permanent disqualification. Prior to a penalty being imposed, an administrative hearing will take place to review the evidence and determine if an offense took place, unless the participant signs a waiver of an administrative hearing.

Other Sanctions

Families are ineligible for Tribal cash assistance when:

1. Convictions/Misrepresentation-An individual is convicted in state or federal court of fraudulent actions that misrepresented their place of residency in order to receive cash assistance, Food Stamps, Medicaid, or SSI benefits simultaneously in two states;
2. Fraud-The family includes an adult who fraudulently misrepresented their residence in order to receive cash assistance in more than one state or mispresents their identity in order to receive cash assistance. The family is ineligible for 10 years beginning the date the CITC Administrative Waiver is signed, or is found guilty in an Administrative Hearing;
3. Fugitives -The family includes individuals fleeing prosecution or imposition of sentence for a felony offense, or Alaska Class A misdemeanor;
4. Refusing or Leaving Employment-A caretaker refuses or voluntarily separates from suitable employment without good cause. The family is ineligible for cash assistance for

one month for the first offense, six months for the second offense, and 12 months for any subsequent offenses;

5. Minor Parent-The family caretaker is an unmarried minor parent not living with a parent or in another CITC approved adult supervised setting;
6. Transferring Resources-The family includes an adult who intentionally transfers a resource to become eligible. The family may lose eligibility for up to 12 months, depending on the value of the transferred resource.

Additional Sanctions

1. Fiscal Responsibility-Temporary cash assistance is to be used for providing the basic needs to the family. CITC Tribal cash assistance participants will be assisted by program staff in developing a household budget to cover their family's anticipated food, clothing, and shelter-related costs for the month. Upon the assessment of the program staff, CITC has the option to retain portions of the monthly assistance and encumber it in vouchers up to 100%. This action would be taken as a result of demonstrated gross negligence by the participant in the use of their cash assistance or because of a recipient's non-compliance with specific conditions of the CITC Tribal services as described in this plan;
2. Parental Responsibility-Minor parent recipients may required to participate in locally available parenting skills groups, family planning and other available counseling appropriate to their individual situations. Adult parent recipients may be required to participate in similar groups and counseling. Failure to comply with any of these requirements without good cause, as indicated in Section 8.3.2.(O), will result in a penalty;
3. Personal Responsibility –When appropriate, adult and minor parent participants screened for alcohol and substance abuse and determined by program staff to be at high risk will be required to complete a drug and alcohol evaluation at the request of their case manager. CITC Tribal participants will be required to follow the recommendation(s) resulting from their evaluation. Failure to meet these requirements will result in an appropriate reduction of their monthly cash assistance, established in consultation between the applicant and the CITC 477 staff. Failure of a participant to comply with the recommendations of their evaluation after six months will result in a third party payee for their cash assistance.

Q. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NON-CASH PARTICIPANTS

Applicants for each category must reside in the CITC Services Area described in section 8.3.2.(A) and be considered “needy” according to section 8.3.2.(D) (exceptions will be described in each section below). Each category will have additional eligibility criteria outlined in each section below.

a. Financial Assistance to Parents When Children are Removed

If a custodial parent on Tribal cash assistance has one/all of their child(ren) removed from their care by Indian Child Welfare (ICW) or Office of Children's Services (OCS), they may be eligible for continued financial assistance for up to six months, in order to work on their reunification plan. Participants must be "needy" and must not have reached their 60-month lifetime limit.

Parental Responsibility

Only custodial parents that were on Tribal cash assistance at the time of removal may request this on-going financial assistance, and the parent must demonstrate they have an OCS reunification plan and making progress. This will be determined on a case by case basis by the case manager.

Financial Assistance Payment

Parents that have been determined eligible for the financial assistance under this section will still have to be income and resource eligible per CITC 477 Plan and remain residents of the Municipality of Anchorage or Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Payment will be equivalent to the pregnant woman standard set by the State of Alaska need standards. Monthly payments will not be automatic; parents must demonstrate their cooperation and activity compliance each month.

b. Subsidized Employment for Non-TANF

1. Non-Custodial Parent of Tribal Children-Non-custodial parents of Tribal children may qualify for subsidized employment. They must agree to notify Child Support Services of new employment.

2. Families That Have Reach Lifetime Limit-Families that have reached 60 months lifetime limit for Tribal cash assistance, and are no longer eligible and still have a dependent child(ren) may qualify for subsidized employment.

3. Parents working with Office of Children Services (OCS)- Parents of Tribal cash assistance children that were removed by OCS or Tribal Court can qualify for subsidized employment if they are actively working on a reunification plan for their children and are making progress. Parents are not eligible to receive both subsidized employment and financial assistance (see section 8.3.2.(Q)(a)) at the same time.

4. Summer and In-School Youth Employment- Non-cash assistance youth will be provided subsidized employment opportunities and supportive services directly relating to the employment opportunities, both during the school year and during the summer.

c. Nonrecurring Short-term Assistance

Subject to the availability of funds, CITC 477 may provide Nonrecurring Short-term Assistance, i.e. emergency or crisis assistance, to needy families as provided at 45 CFR 286.10 (b) (1).

Nonrecurring Short-term Assistance are services that:

(i) Are designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need:

(ii) Are not intended to meet recurrent or ongoing needs; and

(iii) Will not extend beyond four months.

Applicants Eligible for Nonrecurring Short-term Assistance

Applicants must meet the definition of "needy" as defined in section 8.3.2.(D), reside in the Municipality of Anchorage or Matanuska-Susitna Valley, be Alaska Native and/or American Indian with verification outlined in section 8.3.2.(B), and have a specific crisis or need.

Limitation of Nonrecurring Short-term Assistance

CITC 477 will develop internal policies to identify specific crisis and needs that will be approved, examples include, but not limited to, utility shut off, rent/mortgage, work supports and furnace/water heater repair. Recipients of on-going Tribal cash assistance will not be able to request nonrecurring short term assistance, any requests from open cash assistance cases can request supportive services through their caseworkers.

d. Activities for Purposes Three and Four

The Tribe may use 477 funds to provide services (and related activities) that do not constitute "assistance" (as defined in 45 CFR 286.10) to individuals and family members who are not financially deprived but who need the kind of services that meet TANF purposes three or four. Objective criteria will be established for participation in these programs.

Youth Employment under this section- The Tribe will use 477 funds under purpose 3 to provide Alaska Native/American Indian youth ages 14-24 subsidized employment, supportive services related to the subsidized employment, and employment services. The youth must be Alaska Native/American Indian residing within CITC service area and do not have to be financially deprived. CITC will develop internal guidelines to prioritize 477 and low-income children based on funding availability.

Unless the State instructs otherwise, the Tribe may also use MOE funds to pay for non-assistance pro-family activities for individuals or family members, regardless of financial need.

R. RIGHTS AND DUE PROCESS

CITC 477 will provide written notice of each action taken on any application or ongoing case. These notices will be timely if they will adversely affect the family's eligibility or grant amount, except in certain circumstances outlined in policies/procedures. If a participant disagrees with the action which affects their eligibility determination or change in assistance amount they may file an Appeal. *(See Appendix H)*. A participant follows the CITC Participant Complaints and Feedback (Procedure #09.010.010) to resolve complaints for actions outside of eligibility determination realm. (**See Appendix I*.)

S. DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING

The CITC will comply with PL 102-477 approved reporting requirements and instructions.

T. RETROCESSION

CITC may not terminate its responsibility for the operation of the TANF program under this Plan during the term, except:

- Notice- Upon no less than 120 day notice to the Department of Health and Human Services and the State of Alaska; or
- Agreement- On a date agreed upon between CITC and the State of Alaska.
- Compliance- CITC will comply with all applicable regulations and related laws as specified in 45 CFR 286.30 related to retrocession.

U. FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY ASSISTANCE

For each fiscal year during which the CITC receives or expends funds pursuant to a block grant under Section 412 of Title I – Block Grants for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the fiscal accountability provisions of Section 5(f)(I) of the Indian Self-determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. §§ 450c(f)(1)), relating to the submission of a single agency audit report required by chapter 75 of Title 31, United States Code, applies.

V. ASSURANCE OF COMMENT PERIOD

The CITC TANF Program assures compliance with the 45-day comment period requirement in 45 CFR 286.75 (a)(6) prior to the submission of this CITC Tribal TANF Plan. CITC posted on our website.