

HF1339: Income and Asset Exclusion to Preserve Public Benefits



**SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA**

The City of Saint Paul is partnering with the University of Pennsylvania to research the connection between poverty reduction and impacts on early childhood development through a local demonstration project in the City. Through monthly income support, the demonstration project empowers recipients to address their most urgent needs and provides a cushion for unpredictable expense, external shocks, and volatility.

Requesting that payments made to families by Saint Paul's Demonstration Project not count as income or assets for determining eligibility for Child Care Assistance (CCAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Medical Assistance, or MinnesotaCare, so that families are not financially harmed by participating in the demonstration.

Precedence for Income & Asset Exclusion in Minnesota: Baby's First Years Study

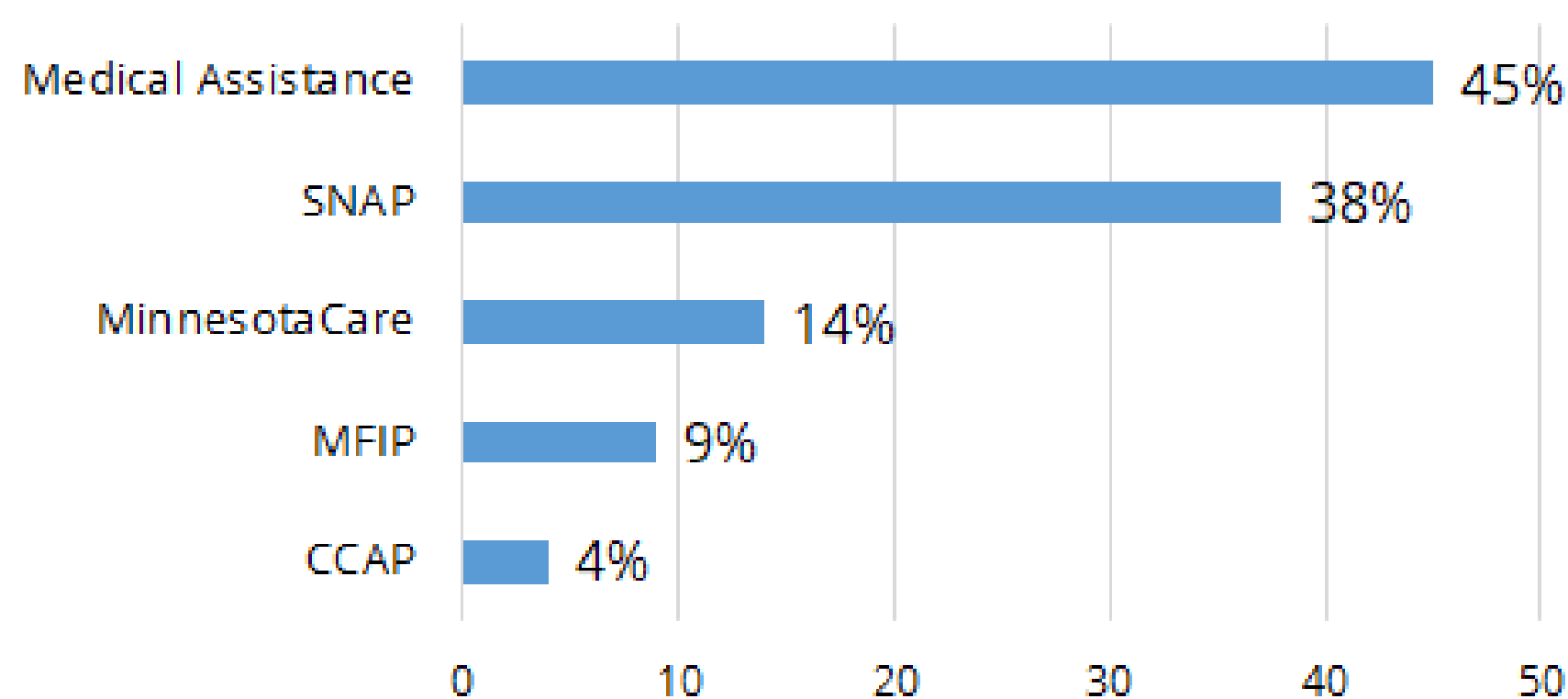
The Minnesota Legislature granted an income and asset exclusion from public benefits eligibility for the Baby's First Years study, a multiyear research study to test the connection between poverty reduction and children's brain development that includes 250 Minnesota families with infants. Families can receive up to \$333 a month for 40 months, and those payments do not count towards eligibility for MFIP, SNAP*, CCAP, Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare programs.
See Laws of Minnesota 2016, Chapter 189, Article 15, Section 29

National Evaluation of Saint Paul Demonstration

The University of Pennsylvania is conducting a study to evaluate the outcomes of the demonstration project in 30 cities, including Saint Paul. Families will receive in-depth surveys every six months and participate in in-depth interviews to measure outcomes related to:

- Income volatility
- Economic agency
- Financial situation (debt, savings, wealth)
- Physical and mental health
- Parenting
- Engagement with college savings

Percentage of Public Benefits Participation, by Program



*If the income is excluded from MFIP through HF1339, the State has the option to exclude from SNAP.

Contact:

ThaoMee Xiong
Director of Intergovernmental Relations
City of Saint Paul
Thaomee.xiong@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-399-0686

PROGRAM DESIGN

The demonstration project provides 150 families with a flexible monthly income, but also supports saving for their children's education through monthly deposits into their CollegeBound accounts.

**150
Families**

\$500
Per month in
income support

\$10
Per month
college savings
deposits

**18
Months**