

.04 STBL Hardship Extension Eligibility – Victim of Violence, Crime, or Domestic Violence

REVISION 14
(10/01/10 – 12/31/10)

A participant may request an STBL hardship extension on the basis that the PI, [spouse\(g\)](#) of the PI or other adult in the home who is financially responsible for the dependent child is a victim of violence, crime, or domestic violence. The result of the violence or crime must prevent the adult participant from working or engaging in work activities.

Victim of Violence: Violence is defined as battery or extreme cruelty inflicted on any member of a budgetary unit by a stranger or by a person known to any member of the budgetary unit. Battery or extreme cruelty includes, but is not limited, to any of the following:

- Physical acts that threatened or resulted in physical injury
- Threats of, or attempts at, physical or sexual abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual activity involving a child
- Being forced as the caretaker of a child to engage in non-consensual sexual acts or activities
- Mental or emotional abuse
- Neglect or deprivation of basic necessities such as food or medical care

Victim of Crime: A crime includes any unlawful act against any member of a budgetary unit that creates a hardship.

Victim of Domestic Violence: Domestic Violence (DV) is a pattern of behavior in which one family member or intimate partner uses physical violence, coercion, threats, intimidation, isolation, or emotional, sexual, or economic abuse to control another family member or the other intimate partner in the relationship.

Circumstances that support the claim related to a victim of crime, domestic violence, or other violence include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Residence in an emergency or transitional shelter or housing for victims of abuse.

- Obtaining or having obtained a protective or restraining order against an abuser.
- Receiving protective or supportive services related to the abuse or violence.
- Being a party to a legal action such as a divorce or custody which involves issues of current or past abuse or violence.
- Staying with a friend or relative after fleeing to avoid or escape abuse.
- Violence or abuse against the victim resulted in the arrest, arraignment, or conviction of the abuser or perpetrator.
- Receiving or having received inpatient or outpatient treatment for psychological, physical, emotional or mental abuse, or violence.
- Being hospitalized or receiving emergency room treatment for medical or psychological injuries as a result of the abuse or violence.

NOTE Any of the above circumstances could be a past or current circumstance.

Verification must be provided that supports the determination of the crime or act of violence. (See [STBL hardship Extension - Victim of Crime, Domestic Violence or other Violence Verification](#)).

WARNING

Residing with a Perpetrator or Abuser:

When the perpetrator or abuser resides with a participant or the budgetary unit, that person must be actively working with the Department of Child Safety (DCS) prior to authorizing a hardship extension based on a victim of violence claim. In this situation, all of the following apply:

- DCS must verify the active participation of the perpetrator or abuser
- The facts and the DCS verification must be elevated to the [Research and Analysis Unit](#) (R&A) via e-mail, to determine whether the budgetary unit is eligible for an STBL hardship extension
- When abuse is reported under any circumstances, the victim should be offered a referral for DV services through either of the following:

FAA2.P Welfare Reform (WERE/CODC/CODF) : 11 12 Month State Benefit Limit (STBL) - Overview : D
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Domestic Violence.

[Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)

[National Domestic Violence Hotline](#)

All potential STBL hardship extension DENIALS must be elevated to R&A prior to taking action.

NOTE When the participant fails to provide verification of the claimed hardship, it is not required to elevate to R&A prior to taking the denial action.