

# The US Welfare State

## General Information

- beginning of US Welfare in the 1930's
- reason: Great Depression (global economic crisis 1929)
- US Welfare System stayed in hands of federal government (for 60 years)
- many complaints about the Welfare Program
- 1996: reformation of the Welfare System (B. Clinton)

## TANF(= Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

- once called AFDC(=Aid to Families with Dependent Children)
- government gives a grant to each state so that they can run their own Welfare Program
- recipients have to find work within 2 years of receiving cash
- aim: recipients should become self-sufficient

## Other Types of Welfare

health care, food stamps, childcare assistance,  
help in case of unemployment, housing assistance

## Eligibility + „How to apply“

- information about „*how to apply*“ could be found in the internet  
(„*states department for health and human services*“ website)
- there is a telephone number in the phonebook  
(„local human service department“)

step1: meeting with a case worker

important informations for eligibility:

- gross and net income
- size of the family
- crisis situations (e.g. unemployment, pregnancy)

step2: you will get a list of required documents for the next meeting  
(e.g. proof of income, ID,etc.)

==> definition of **eligibility** and the **amount** and **type** of the benefit