

The program, called The Bridge Project (TBP), is a groundbreaking initiative offering unconditional cash transfers to support mothers and their babies in Appalachia. Aimed at empowering pregnant individuals by providing financial stability, it is part of a broader effort to address child poverty and promote long-term wellbeing. Launched in 2021 in New York to address high child poverty rates, TBP is expanding to parts of Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia, offering financial flexibility to expecting individuals in need.

The program lasts 36 months, beginning during the third trimester of pregnancy. Mothers who are selected to be a part of The Bridge Project will receive an upfront stipend of \$1,125 and then a monthly total of \$750 for the first 15 months of the program and \$375 a month for the last 21 months, all on a biweekly basis - no strings attached.

To apply for The Bridge Project, you must meet all of the eligibility requirements listed below:

- Live in the ARC-designated counties within the States of Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia. All of West Virginia is considered within the Appalachian region
- Be 18 years or older
- Be 14 weeks pregnant or less
- Have an annual household income of less than \$44,000