

**Clermont County Dept. of Job and Family Services
"Good Cause" Extension Criteria**

An assistance group that has ceased to participate in OWF due to the thirty six month time limit as set forth in Section 5107.18 of the Ohio Revised Code, and has not been in receipt of OWF for at least twenty four months, whether consecutive or not, may reapply to participate in the OWF program. In order for a parent/family to regain eligibility for OWF, the Clermont CDJFS must determine if "good cause" exists. Any months in which a family was in receipt of OWF due to a "hardship extension" will reduce the number of additional months that can be received under this "good cause" provision and the twenty per cent limit for the extension of OWF assistance does not apply.

The Clermont CDJFS will review all OWF applications and apply the county defined "good cause" criteria listed below. In addition, supportive verifications will be required to determine eligibility for this OWF extension. (The CRISE reason codes are listed and the Good Cause list is on TLGI.)

1. The parent must demonstrate recent loss of employment or underemployment for reasons of just cause. They must verify earnings in 12 of the previous 24 months and have made reasonable efforts toward self sufficiency through job search with BUC, a certified One Stop or any other local workforce resource agency, or ***0102**
2. The parent must verify that a recent separation or divorce has eliminated the primary financial support for their family, or ***0301**
3. The parent must verify that they have been a victim of ****domestic violence** and are engaging, or are willing to engage, in supportive services to assist them in establishing family stability and obtaining employment, or ***0404**
4. The parent must demonstrate that the family has experienced a catastrophic event/situation (such as an unexpected, serious physical or mental trauma for themselves or a family member, a death in the family, etc.) that ends or postpones their continued employment, or ***0501**
5. The geographic area is experiencing a labor surplus or a high unemployment rate or other economic condition as determined by ODJFS, Bureau of Employment Services or other local agency that prevents the parent from obtaining employment to support their family, or ***0201**
6. The parent has provided sufficient, detailed documentation to confirm a physical or mental disability that prohibits them from meeting the demands of employment. They are pending SSI or SSD. ***0903**

Approved by:

Crystal Patrick, Deputy Director

Date

****Domestic Violence: The Clermont County DJFS case manager will counsel the customer and provide detailed information regarding the resources that are available to assist the victim in their crisis situation. (House of Peace, Clermont Counseling, etc.)**

Clarification: The term "parent" could also represent a specified relative in need who had already received their 36 months of OWF benefits.