

MEIGS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

GOOD CAUSE REASONS FOR OWF EXTENDED BENEFITS

Effective Oct. 01, 2002

The Ohio Revised Code Section 5107.18 B provides that an assistance group that has ceased to participate in OWF due to the 36-month state time limit for at least a 24-month waiting period may be eligible to participate in OWF if the family is determined to have "good cause". The Meigs CDJFS will accept the following Good Cause reasons for extending up to 60 months Ohio Works First (OWF) cash to those qualifying applicants who, also, must meet all other OWF requirements.

1. The disability of a parent. In two parent assistance groups, if one parent meets this condition, the other parent must meet either this condition or that of two (2) below. In order to meet Good Cause for this group, the disabled parent must have an SSI application currently in pending or appeal status with the Social Security Administration. An SSI application must have been filed within sixty (60) days of the onset of a disabling accident or illness or within thirty (30) days upon notice of denial by the Appeals Council. Denied SSI claims must be in current appeals status. The disabled parent must be cooperating with the County Medical Services (CMS) disability determination process and have either a disability determination currently pending with CMS or a disability approval with CMS. (Reason Code 0901)
2. A parent caring for a disabled immediate family member residing in the same home of the assistance group. An immediate family member is defined as a parent, sibling, child, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, mother-in-law or father-in-law of the parent. In two-parent assistance groups, if one parent meets this condition, the other parent must meet condition one (1) above. In order to establish the existence of the disabling condition, the assistance group of the disabled family member must provide verification of a current pending application or receipt of a source of income for which the basis of eligibility or benefit level is dependent on the existence of a disabling condition (e.g., SSI, SSD, VA, Worker's Compensation, etc.). The parent must also provide a statement from the most current treating medical doctor and/or mental health professional of the disabling condition and that the disabling condition of the family member requires in-home care of no one other than the parent to the extent that such care prevents the parent from being able to obtain employment. (Reason Code 0902)
3. The individual is a single custodial parent with a child under the age of three (3) months. (Reason Code 1303)
4. The individual is a single custodial parent who has been a victim of domestic violence verified by a court filing, and available evidence demonstrates that the condition impacts the ability to obtain/retain employment. (Reason Code 0404)
5. The assistance group has lost the household primary source of income due to a legal separation, divorce or death. (Reason Code 0305)

6. The child (ren) have been removed from the assistance group by the Children Services Division of the Meigs County Department of Job and Family Services and the caretaker is actively cooperating with the Children Services Division case plan (as determined by the Children Services Division) toward reunification. (Reason Code 0706)
7. The individual lost employment due to no fault of their own and cannot find employment.. (Reason Code 0107)
8. The assistance group has unique personal circumstances that prevents employment. (Reason Code 0508)
9. OWF case has been extended due to Good Cause and being transferred to another county. (Reason Code 9098)
10. OWF Good Cause Case transferred in from another county. (Reason Code 1810)
11. Intercounty transfer OWF case with Good Cause based on another county's reason code. (Reason Code 1811)

The Meigs County Department of Job and Family Services will determine eligibility for OWF cash benefits beyond the thirty-six (36) month time limit in accordance with all applicable law, departmental rules and policies and procedures.

The Meigs County Department of Job and Family Services reserves the right, under Ohio Administrative Code Rule 5101:1-23-01 to add, delete or modify conditions of Good Cause at its discretion.