

OFFICE OF FAMILY STABILITY LETTER #5

February 21, 2003

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Jeanne Carroll, Deputy Director
Office of Family Stability

SUBJECT: ICE STORM 2003/ADULT DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Due to the recent weather emergencies, nine counties in Ohio are granted additional funding for the Ice Storm 2003 program. The individuals who may be eligible for assistance under the Ice Storm 2003 program will be explained below. The counties affected by this letter are Adams, Belmont, Gallia, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble and Scioto. Other counties may be added if declared by the Governor to be in a state of emergency.

The funding for Adult Disaster Assistance is different than the TANF funds available for families. TANF funds are available for disaster-related PRC assistance for families in those counties in which the Governor declared a state of emergency. Disaster-related PRC assistance is discussed in OWF/PRC Guidance Letter #17.

Non-TANF funds are available to provide a one-time cash payment of up to \$750 to elderly and disabled individuals without a minor child who have been adversely affected by the emergency condition. Only one payment may be made per dwelling. If a disaster-related PRC payment pursuant to OWF/PRC Guidance Letter #17 has been made on behalf of a resident of the same dwelling, there is no eligibility for assistance under the Ice Storm 2003 program. The Ice Storm 2003 program will begin Thursday February 20, 2003 and runs through close of business on Friday March 21, 2003 contingent upon funding.

In order to qualify for a payment under the Ice Storm 2003 program, the following conditions must be met:

- (1) The individual must be age 55 or over and childless, or;
- (2) The individual must be childless and in receipt of disability benefit payments such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability, VA Disability, PERS Disability, Railroad Retirement Disability, Black Lung Benefits, etc., and;

- (3) The individual must be a resident of one of the designated counties, and;
- (4) The individual must have been adversely affected by the emergency condition, and;
- (5) The individual must be in need as defined by the county. For purposes of this provision, need is determined by comparing the household's total available income to the need standard/poverty level set by the county.

Payments under the Ice Storm 2003 program should not be entered into CRIS-E or the PRC -WRT tracking system. However, in order to estimate expenditures for future declared disasters involving this population, we are asking that affected counties track the number of individuals served under the Ice Storm 2003 program and e-mail the numbers to Jeanne Carroll at carroj@odjfs.state.oh.us by the close of business on Friday of each week until the program ends (March 21, 2003).

Notice and county conference procedures: Ice Storm 2003 program benefits are not subject to state hearing regulations, however, the CDJFS will need to provide written notification on application decisions as well as notification to applicants of the right to a county conference. Sample approval and denial notices are attached and may be reproduced on county letterhead.

In order to receive funds, each affected county must submit a plan outlining the following criteria:

- Categories or types of assistance that will be provided,
- The county's application process,
- The county's need standard/poverty level

The plan should be submitted to:

Office of Family Stability
 Jeanne Carroll, Deputy Director
 Fax number: 614/752-7193
 Phone number: 614/466-4815

Funding and fiscal coding: The affected counties must also submit a revised Cash Forecast diskette to the County Finance Section estimating these additional expenditures in order to receive a supplemental draw to the PA-Fund (APM 7353). The CDJFS must use the code contained in the table below to report expenditures. This code may only be used during a Governor-declared state of emergency. Each county will initially receive \$50,000. Amounts above \$50,000 must be approved by the Office of Family Stability.

Financial Reporting Form	Program Code	Title	Definition
JFS 02827	159-50	ADA- Adult Disaster Assistance	Funds distributed as part of the time-limited ADA emergency disaster relief effort.

Attachments

JC: ke

d: Tom Hayes Bob Blair CCAO
 China Widener Deputy Directors OFS Staff
 Melissa DeLisio OJFSDA

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF YOUR APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE

Name	Mailing Date
Street Address	
City, State, and Zip Code	

This notice is to tell you that your application for Ice Storm 2003 assistance dated _____, has been approved in the amount of \$_____.

Additional information:

If you do not understand this notice or you want to talk to your caseworker about it, you may call:

Caseworker	Area	Telephone Number
------------	------	------------------

If you do not agree with this action, you can ask for a county conference within 15 days of the mailing date of this notice. If you want a county conference contact:

NOTICE OF DENIAL OF YOUR APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE

Name	Mailing Date
Street Address	
City, State, and Zip Code	

This notice is to tell you that your application for Ice Storm 2003 assistance dated _____, has been denied because:

If you do not understand this action or you want to talk to your caseworker about it, you may call:

Caseworker	Area	Telephone Number
------------	------	------------------

If you do not agree with this action, you can ask for a county conference within 15 days of the mailing date of this notice. If you want a county conference contact:
