

**OFFICE OF FAMILY STABILITY LETTER #5A**

February 26, 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: ADDITIONAL  
PARAMETERS**

We recently announced the availability of GRF funds for disaster assistance for elderly and disabled individuals who have been adversely affected by the recent severe weather conditions. Please refer to Office of Family Stability Letter (OFSL) #5, dated February 21, 2003.

Since the issuance of OFSL #5, the Governor has added seven additional counties to those he previously had declared as in a state of emergency due to the severe weather. The additional counties are: Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Guernsey, Jackson, Madison and Muskingum. The complete listing of counties is: Adams, Belmont, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Greene, Guernsey, Jackson, Lawrence, Madison, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble and Scioto.

It has come to our attention that there are different types of emergency designations in the affected counties. The majority of the counties have been added as a result of the record-setting snowfall. The Governor's declaration allows for local governments and certain non-profit organizations to apply for federal reimbursement of the costs associated with snow removal only. In some counties, however, the Governor's declaration indicates that the weather conditions have affected the health, safety and welfare of the citizens in the affected area. There has been significant damage in these counties resulting in the disruption of transportation and power. Based on the type of emergency designation, the needs of individuals in the community will differ significantly. The following chart provides the specific county designations:

Health and Safety Designation	Snow-Removal Designation
Adams	Belmont
Gallia	Fayette
Lawrence	Franklin
Meigs	Greene
Scioto	Guernsey
Jackson	Madison
	Monroe
	Morgan
	Muskingum
	Noble

While all of the above counties can access the GRF funds available for adult disaster assistance, these funds are limited in the following manner:

- ' Counties with a "Snow-Removal" designation may receive up to \$50,000, if warranted and in accordance with OFSL #5. No additional funds will be available to these counties.
- ' Counties with a "Health and Safety" designation may receive funds above this initial \$50,000 (contingent upon availability of funds), as approved by the Office of Family Stability and in accordance with OFSL #5.

These restrictions are needed to ensure that these limited GRF funds will be used to cover the needs of those individuals directly impacted by this emergency and whose safety and health are at immediate risk. Another consideration is the likelihood of additional disaster conditions (i.e., floods, tornados) occurring during the remainder of SFY 2003. No other funding is available, therefore, prudent use of these funds is required.

Counties must comply with the requirements outlined in OFSL #5 including submission of a plan and reporting the number of individuals served.

Note: This letter discusses requirements for accessing GRF funds for disaster assistance to elderly or disabled individuals. Please reference OWF/PRC Guidance Letter #17 for the requirements for disaster assistance for TANF-eligible families.

JC: jf

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