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Ohioans Can Now Apply for Food, Cash and Medical Assistance Online

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Applying for food, cash and medical assistance just got easier, thanks to a new Web site that allows Ohioans to apply for benefits wherever they can access a Web connection, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced today. The Web site, <http://ODJFSBenefits.ohio.gov>, is a collaborative effort of ODJFS and the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks. A grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture helped fund the site's development.

“I’ve always said that ODJFS must strive to ‘meet people where they’re at,’” said ODJFS Director Douglas Lumpkin. “This new Web site is an excellent example of that. It will allow us to improve our level of customer service. Because of the recession, many Ohioans are applying for assistance for the first time. Many of them are used to new ways of doing business and are more than happy to apply for services online. Innovations like <http://ODJFSBenefits.ohio.gov> help expedite assistance to those who need it most.”

Ohioans who believe they are eligible for assistance or who need to update their case information can now do so 24 hours a day from any available computer with Internet access. After an individual fills out the online application, the paperwork is automatically forwarded to a county caseworker for review. The process is quick, easy and secure.