

Fayette County Job and Family Services
Good Cause Extension Criteria
Effective 10/1/02

Section 5107.18 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code 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.*”

Fayette County Department of Job and Family Services has determined the following conditions/circumstances to meet the definition of “*good cause*” and could provide an additional 24 month maximum OWF benefit.

- C **Loss of Employment:** Business closure and/or downsizing and other good cause as referenced in Section 5101:1-3-15 (A) (2) ORC 5107.26 (C).
- C **Inability to find Employment:** Saturated job market
- C **Divorce:** When the spouse has been a primary source of support for more than two (2) years.
- C **Domestic Violence Considerations :** Must be cooperating with counseling services, and no longer living with perpetrator.
- C **Unique Personal Circumstances:** Determined at the discretion of the Unit Supervisor. In situations such as but not limited to family crisis or natural disaster will be considered.
- C **Aged:** 55 to 60 with no prior work history, or over 60 years of age.
- C **Child Protective Services Plan:** a PCSA case plan is reliant upon additional OWF months for reasonable progress in achieving stability and self sufficiency.
- C **Dependent Care Barriers:** In home disabled spouse or child that requires total care as determined by Medical Specialist. Individual will be required to apply for waiver services.
- C **Disability/ Medical Condition:** Presumptive disability of the adult member per PAM 5101:1-39-031.
- C **Pregnancy/Child Bearing:** Must verify by Medical Specialist that they are unable to work due to pregnancy.
- C **Substance Abuse:** Treatment must be in progress.

Based upon the items listed above, the Agency will determine if there is *good cause* for the assistance group to reapply for OWF. If *Good Cause* is established, the AG will be eligible for any remaining months of OWF assistance up to the Federal 60 month lifetime limit for TANF cash assistance so long as all other eligibility factors are met. Any month of receipt under the county hardship criteria for extension beyond the 36 month time limit, will count toward the 24 additional months granted under good cause criteria. No AG can exceed 60 months of OWF benefits.

An AG applying for the OWF *Good Cause* extension will need to complete a *Good Cause* Extension request form with their application for OWF specifying the reason that the AG believes they meet the *Good Cause* definition.

Once eligibility under the *Good Cause* Criteria is established, no subsequent determination of good cause shall be made as long as all other OWF eligibility requirements continue to be met, unless an assistance group loses OWF eligibility for any reason other than a self sufficiency contract failure and there is at least a one day interruption in assistance. A new *good cause* determination must be made if the assistance group reapplies to participate.

AG's not considered eligible under *Good Cause* will be advised of the Agency's decision in writing and are afforded all ODJFS state hearing rights.

The above Fayette County Department of Job and Family Services OWF Good Cause Extension Policy is adopted effective October 1, 2002 and will remain in effect until amended in writing by the Director of Fayette County Department of Job and Family Services.

Ron Rockwell
Ron Rockwell, Director

October 2, 2002
Date

**Fayette County Job and Family Services
OWF Good Cause Extension Request Form**

I am requesting an extension of OWF assistance payments under the “*Good Cause*” provisions. At least 24 months have passed since I reached my 36 month OWF time limit. I am requesting this extension because I feel I meet one or more of the following criteria.

Please check all that apply to you or your assistance group:

- Loss of Employment:** Business closure and/or downsizing and other good cause as referenced in Section 5101:1-3-15 (A) (2) ORC 5107.26 (C).
- Inability to find Employment:** Saturated job market
- Divorce:** When the spouse has been a primary source of support for more than two (2) years.
- Domestic Violence Considerations:** Must be cooperating with counseling services, and no longer living with perpetrator.
- Unique Personal Circumstances:** Determined at the discretion of the Unit Supervisor. In situations such as but not limited to family crisis or natural disaster will be considered.
- Aged:** 55 to 60 with no prior work history, or over 60 years of age.
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- Dependent Care Barriers:** In home disabled spouse or child that requires total care as determined by Medical Specialist. Individual will be required to apply for waiver services.
- Disability/ Medical Condition:** Presumptive disability of the adult member per PAM 5101:1-39-031.
- Pregnancy/Child Bearing:** Must verify by Medical Specialist that they are unable to work due to pregnancy.
- Substance Abuse:** Treatment must be in progress.

Please list any evidence you have or can make available to the agency in support of your request for extending OWF assistance under the *Good Cause* provisions:

I understand that if Good Cause is established our Assistance Group will be eligible for only the remaining months of OWF assistance up to the Federal 60 month lifetime limit for TANF cash assistance as long as all other eligibility factors are met. The Assistance group will be advised in writing and will have ODJFS State Hearing Rights.

Signature of Person Completing Form

Date