

**STATE OF OHIO  
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES**

**TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) PROGRAM  
STATE TITLE IV-A PLAN**

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## Section I OVERVIEW OF OHIO'S TANF PROGRAMS

### General Overview

In 1997, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill 408, landmark legislation that fundamentally changed the nature of welfare assistance in Ohio. House Bill 408 built on welfare reform provisions in the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), which Congress enacted in 1996. The law eliminated the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program and replaced it with the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Ohio created from TANF two innovative programs B Ohio Works First (OWF) and Prevention, Retention and Contingency (PRC). In July 2001, the Ohio General Assembly created other TANF-funded programs and components of Title IV-A programs to provide benefits and services to TANF-eligible individuals, as established by the Ohio General Assembly or Executive Order issued by the Governor. With these programs, Ohio has transformed public assistance from a system focused on entitlement to one focused on employment, personal responsibility, and sustained self-sufficiency.

Within Ohio, a state supervised/county administered system, welfare reform has been implemented by the state and counties, with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) entering into an optional Fiscal Agreement with each Board of County Commissioners. State law delegates a significant amount of decision-making to counties, giving them the flexibility to create nonassistance programs that meet community needs. ODJFS provides technical assistance to the 88 County Departments of Job and Family Services and monitors performance measures.

The success of welfare reform in Ohio has been significant. This effort has dramatically decreased welfare dependence by investing in services, supports, resources and strategies that promote work. Since the implementation of the TANF program, Ohio's cash assistance caseload declined from 549,312 in August 1996 to 185,132 recipients by June 2003, a decline of 66.30%. At the same time, OWF and PRC have transformed public assistance from a system focused on entitlement to one focused on personal responsibility and sustained self-sufficiency. Likewise, services and programs have rapidly expanded to prevent dependency and support employment for those not on cash assistance.

Investments in workforce development services prepare recipients for employment, assist them in the labor market and sustain their attachment to the world of work. Investments in family stability services help build stronger families, foster the development of children and youth and address counter-productive behaviors. Investments in child care provide payments for child care services as well as support the costs of developing capacity, improving the quality of child care and helping parents find appropriate child care.

In State Fiscal Year 2003 Ohio used TANF funds to support the following PRC services to individuals:

<u>Service and Program</u>	<u>Estimated Number Served SFY 2003</u>
Employment, Training & Work Support	156,792
Diversion and Retention	114,994
Child Welfare and Protection	93,828
Non-Custodial Parents	2,862
Pregnancy Prevention	568,524

<u>Service and Program</u>	<u>Estimated Number Served SFY 2003</u>
Domestic Violence	5,412
Disaster Services	8,214
Youth Educational Supportive Services	210,432
Community and Economic Development	35,136
Help Me Grow	320,088

### **Overview of Ohio's TANF Programs**

In Ohio, the following programs and services are supported through the TANF program. Coordination with other programs support families as they pursue self-sufficiency.

*Ohio Works First* - OWF is a state-supervised, county-administered program that serves every political subdivision in the State. OWF provides time-limited cash assistance to needy families with (or expecting) children, by furnishing parents or specified relatives with work, training, and other support services they need in order to attain permanent self-sufficiency while meeting the family's ongoing basic needs. Non-time-limited OWF cash assistance is also provided to child-only cases.

*Prevention, Retention and Contingency* - PRC is a county-administered, state-supervised program that serves every political subdivision in the State. The program is designed to provide benefits and services that are not considered assistance in accordance with 45 CFR 260.31. PRC provides ongoing services and nonrecurring short-term benefits designed to accomplish one of the four purposes of TANF by addressing supports needed by working families and by addressing the needs of families with barriers to self-sufficiency. The goal is always to provide the appropriate mix of cash and non-cash services that will enable the family to achieve self-sufficiency. Ohio chooses to provide services authorized by the Title IV-A Plan that was in effect on August 21, 1996. This plan authorizes Ohio to fund certain medical services and certain Child Welfare services with TANF dollars. The specific Title IV-A plan is in Appendix A.

*Separate State Program* - In Ohio, as in many states, drug and alcohol addiction plays an ever-increasing role in family dysfunction as well as economic and social dependency. In order to better address this underlying cause of dependency, Ohio has created a Separate State Program (SSP) to provide prevention and treatment services for youth and adults where drug and alcohol abuse threatens their ability to become economically self-sufficient and to care for children in their own home.

*Other TANF-Funded Benefits and Services* - ODJFS administers other TANF-funded programs and components of Title IV-A programs, which provide benefits and services to TANF-eligible individuals, as established by the Ohio General Assembly or Executive Order issued by the Governor. The benefits and services provided under this section are not considered assistance as defined in 45 CFR ' 260.31(a) and are benefits and services that 45 CFR ' 260.31(b) excludes from the definition of assistance.

*Family Supports* - A very important component in moving people away from public assistance and toward self-sufficiency is the provision of adequate family supports. As families move into regular, meaningful employment, it is imperative that they are given the opportunity to access support services that help them maintain their jobs. Assistance with buying food, getting health coverage, paying for child care and transportation are all family supports that assist families in their pursuit of success.

## **Overview of Funding**

ODJFS will structure Federal TANF funds and State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds in a manner consistent with federal and state law, as well as the efficient and effective operation of programs designed to serve the needs of families envisioned in the purposes of TANF. The structure of funding may include the following:

- C Segregated TANF funds expended in the TANF program
- C Segregated State MOE funds expended in the TANF program
- C Commingled Federal TANF and State MOE funds expended in the TANF program
- C Separate MOE funds expended on state programs operated outside the TANF program

To the extent allowable under federal law, the State may transfer funding from the TANF Block Grant to the Social Services Block Grant and the Child Care Development Fund.

**Section II**  
**OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR OHIO'S TANF PROGRAMS**

**Ohio Works First**

The OWF program is the primary program for providing cash assistance to needy families and requires participants to engage in work activities based on a Self-Sufficiency Contract when the assistance group contains an adult or minor head-of-household. A 'minor head of household' is defined as a minor child who is either: (1) married, at least six months pregnant and a member of an assistance group that does not include an adult; or (2) married, and a parent of a child included in the same assistance group that does not include an adult.

OWF encourages family self-sufficiency through employment while it meets temporary needs through the provision of cash assistance. When determining eligibility for OWF, the State will require that the assistance group contain a minor child who resides with a custodial parent, legal guardian, legal custodian or specified relative caring for the child (under Ohio law, guardians and custodians stand *in loco parentis*); or a woman who is at least six months pregnant. Additionally, all adult members or minor heads of household must sign and comply with a self-sufficiency contract. There is no resource limit/asset test in the OWF program.

*Initial Income Test*

The first step in determining whether a family is financially eligible to participate in OWF is the state's initial income test. The initial income test is a modified program eligibility test, similar to the initial eligibility test formerly prescribed by AFDC regulation. The earned income disregard is not applied at this initial income test.

The assistance group is ineligible to participate in OWF if the assistance group's gross income, less amounts disregarded by departmental rule, exceeds the amounts in the chart that follows. The income amounts that are disregarded in the initial income test are from income sources which the state has chosen to exclude from the definition of gross earned and gross unearned income (e.g., SSI, income excluded under the food stamp program regulations). In addition, for purposes of applying this initial income test, the actual dependent care costs (up to allowable maximums defined in the state's rule) paid by the assistance group for non-publicly funded dependent care for an incapacitated adult or a child who is a member of the assistance group are also disregarded. The remaining family gross monthly income is compared to the amounts designated for the family size in the chart that follows.

Assistance Group Size	Gross Income
1	\$423
2	\$537
3	\$630
4	\$750
5	\$858
6	\$942

7	\$1038
8	\$1139
9	\$1241
10	\$1343
11	\$1440
12	\$1542
13	\$1643
14	\$1742
15*	\$1844

\* For each person in the assistance group that brings the assistance group to more than fifteen persons, add one hundred two dollars to the amount of gross income for an assistance group of fifteen specified above.

*Continued Eligibility*

If the remainder of the family's gross monthly income does not exceed the amount designated for the family size in the initial income test chart, the family passes the initial income test. Once determined eligible to participate, the family's OWF cash benefits are determined by deducting \$250 and 2 the remainder from the family's gross monthly earned income as an earned income disregard and deducting any nonpublicly funded dependent care costs (up to allowable maximums). The family's unearned income is added to the remainder, and the total is compared to the OWF payment standard for the family size. The OWF payment is the difference derived from subtracting the family's countable income from the OWF payment standard for the family size.

A temporarily absent individual is considered to be in the home for eligibility purposes under OWF. The absence of a member of the assistance group is temporary if all the following conditions are met:

- C The location of the absent individual is known;
- C There is a definite plan for the return of the absent individual to the home;
- C The absent individual shared the home with the assistance group prior to the onset of the absence.

A minor child or parent/specified relative who, without good cause, has been, or is expected to be, absent from the home for a period of forty-five consecutive days or longer does not meet the temporary absence requirement for OWF. Exceptions to this requirement are limited to the following good cause reasons:

- C Hospitalization (includes inpatient drug and alcohol treatment);
- C Detention in a juvenile home until a court commitment;
- C Attendance at school;
- C Vacationing;
- C Trip made in connection with current or prospective employment;

- C Shared parenting situations;
- C Service in the military when it is the sole reason for absence;
- C Removal of a child(ren) by the Public Children Services Agency (PCSA) if a reunification plan is in place and the parents are cooperating with it. Cash assistance for a child(ren) removed can continue to be provided for up to six payment months after the removal date.

*State and Federal Time Limits*

An assistance group in receipt of OWF that includes an adult or minor head-of-household is subject to state and federal time limits. There is an “Ohio 36-month initial limit” and a “federal 60-month lifetime limit.” After 36 months, the assistance group is ineligible for further payments unless the county department of job and family services (CDJFS) approves an extension of benefits. There are three kinds of CDJFS-determined extensions: (1) “state hardship”; (2) “good cause”; and (3) “federal hardship.” Both the state hardship and federal hardship extensions are subject to a 20% limit, i.e., a CDJFS may exempt up to twenty percent of the average monthly number of families receiving OWF from the time limit on the grounds that they determine that the time limit is a hardship. An assistance group can receive a state hardship extension any time after the 36-month limit has been reached. An assistance group can only receive a good cause extension after a 24-month waiting period following the 36-month period. After that period, if good cause exists according to CDJFS policies, the assistance group may be eligible for up to an additional twenty-four months of cash assistance. After 60 months, the assistance group is ineligible for further payments unless the CDJFS approves a federal hardship extension. The 60-month limit counts the first 36 months plus all state hardship and good cause extension months. Both time limits count any months of TANF cash assistance received in another state. An assistance group approved for OWF as a result of an extension must meet all eligibility requirements and sign a new self-sufficiency contract. Based on a waiver inconsistency (Appendix B), State and Federal time limits began on 10/1/97, and will not be applied retrospectively to participants who received assistance and services before 10/1/97.

*Benefit Levels*

The maximum OWF benefit levels available to assistance groups are based on the assistance group size. The following chart provides the standards:

Number in Assistance Group	Payment Standard
1	\$223
2	\$305
3	\$373
4	\$461
5	\$539
6	\$600
7	\$670
8	\$743

9	\$817
10	\$891
11	\$963
12	\$1037
13	\$1110
14	\$1182
15	\$1256
Add for Each Person above 15	\$93

*School Attendance for Teen Parents (LEAP Program)*

The Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) Program, a component of OWF, is Ohio's program to encourage teen parents to remain in school and obtain a high school diploma or high school equivalence diploma (HSED). This program is a continuation of the program previously operated under a waiver, with changes made to comply with federal regulations.

All teen parents (including pregnant teens) under the age of 18 or 18 and attending school are subject to LEAP program requirements. A \$62 attendance bonus is provided for any month that a teen maintains good attendance. A \$62 sanction is imposed for any month that a teen does not maintain good attendance. Certain teen parents who are not attending high school or the equivalent are required to participate in an alternative educational or training program. Failure of the teen parent to complete an assessment, enroll in school, attend school or an alternative educational or training program or withdrawal from school will result in the teen parent's ineligibility for OWF. Teen parents 18 years of age who are not attending school are required to participate in Work Activities.

Teen parents caring for children less than twelve weeks or those attending home school or Internet school are exempt from participation in the LEAP Program.

*Assessment/Appraisal*

The goal of OWF is that every family becomes self-sufficient. As soon as possible after an assistance group submits an application for OWF cash assistance, the CDJFS conducts an appraisal of each member of the assistance group who is a minor head of household or an adult. The appraisal includes an evaluation of employment history, education, skills, abilities, interests, and work barriers in order to formulate an employment goal and a plan to achieve self-sufficiency for the individual and the family. The CDJFS also assesses the skills, prior work experience and employability of each participant who has attained 18 years of age, and has not completed high school or obtained a high school equivalency certificate, and is not attending secondary school.

### *Self-Sufficiency Contracts*

Under OWF and pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 608 (b)(2), each member of an assistance group who is a minor head of household or an adult must enter into a written agreement with the CDJFS that is known as a self-sufficiency contract (SSC). The SSC must be signed within thirty days of applying for assistance or undergoing an eligibility redetermination, and should be based on the mandatory appraisal that each CDJFS is required to perform of each assistance group applying for assistance. The SSC sets forth the rights and responsibilities of both the assistance group and the CDJFS. Each SSC will include (but not be limited to) the following items:

- C The assistance group's plan to achieve self-sufficiency and personal responsibility through unsubsidized employment within the time limits specified for participation;
- C Work assignments for each adult member or minor head-of-household in the assistance group -- this should include the type of assignment (federally-allowable work activities, developmental activities, and/or alternative work activities), what the specific assignment is, and the number of hours required. In the case of a two-parent family, one parent may complete the requirement for the assistance group;
- C Responsibility of the caretaker member of the assistance group to cooperate in establishing the minor child's paternity and establishing, modifying, and enforcing a support order for the child;
- C Other responsibilities that members of the assistance group must satisfy to participate in OWF;
- C The consequences to the assistance group for failure or refusal without good cause to satisfy all the responsibilities inherent in the SSC;
- C Assistance and services to be provided to the assistance group by the CDJFS, the Child Support Enforcement Agency, and the Public Children Services Agency;
- C Other provisions designed to enable the assistance group to achieve self-sufficiency and personal responsibility;
- C Procedures for assessing participant and CDJFS compliance with the terms of the SSC and whether the contract should be amended; and
- C Procedures for amending the contract.

If a member of an assistance group fails or refuses to comply in full with a provision of their SSC without good cause as determined by the CDJFS, the CDJFS shall sanction the assistance group in accordance with the legislatively prescribed sanction policy.

ODJFS has developed a descriptive self-sufficiency contract model. Counties are not required to use the model, but must remain consistent with OWF provisions if they choose to adopt their own model.

### *Sanctions*

Each CDJFS establishes standards for the determination of good cause for failure or refusal to comply in full with the provisions of the Self-Sufficiency Contract. The first failure or refusal results in OWF ineligibility for the entire assistance group for one payment month, or until compliance, whichever is longer. The assistance group may also receive a reduction in food stamp benefits. The second failure or refusal causes OWF ineligibility for the entire assistance group for three payment months or until compliance, whichever is longer. The assistance group may also receive a reduction in food stamp benefits. The third or subsequent failure or refusal results in OWF ineligibility for the entire assistance group for six payment months or until compliance, whichever is longer. The assistance group may also receive a reduction in food stamp benefits. For a third or subsequent work activity failure, the adult who failed or refused to comply without good cause may also lose Medicaid coverage until he/she complies with the work-activity requirement. Other members of the assistance group remain eligible for Medicaid.

Ohio statute requires that after sanctioning an assistance group for failure to comply with a provision of the self-sufficiency contract, the CDJFS continue to work with the assistance group to provide the member of the assistance group who caused the sanction an opportunity to demonstrate a willingness to cease the failure or refusal. Assistance groups who are sanctioned may remain eligible for publicly-funded child care and support services.

### *General Work Provisions*

An OWF participant cannot be assigned to a Federal Work, Developmental or Alternative Work Activity with an employer when the employer removes or discharges another person for the purpose of substituting the participant in the person's place. This is true for any of the following circumstances where:

- C The person is already employed as a regular, full-time or part-time employee; or
- C The person has been employed full-time or part-time as a participant in a work activity, developmental activity or alternative work activity; or
- C The person is, or has been, involved in a dispute between a labor organization and the employer; or;
- C The person is on a layoff from the same or any substantially equivalent job.

An employer cannot hire a participant to circumvent hiring a full-time employee. Each CDJFS shall have a grievance process to resolve complaints by employers and participants.

### *Exemptions From Work Activities*

There are limited exemptions from work requirements. Child-only cases are exempt and Ohio will take the state option, which exempts a single-parent who is caring for a child under age one from the federal work participation requirements. This option will be passed to the counties, who may choose whether to accept the option. Single-parent families that are exempt from the federal work participation requirement are required under state law to participate in Developmental Activities.

### *Work Activities*

Each member of the assistance group who is a minor head-of-household or adult is required to participate in

federally allowable work assignments and/or Developmental Activities, or Alternative Work Activities.

### Federally-Allowable Work Assignments

The following work activities are prescribed under Federal law. They are defined as follows:

- C Employment - employment where an individual receives compensation for services performed. This includes activities that the CDJFS deems to be legitimately entrepreneurial including micro-enterprise self-employment programs.
- C Work Experience Program (WEP) - a program in which individuals work without pay at a job site in a public, private-non-profit or private-for-profit organization in order to gain work experience and training. It may include activities ensuring that participants become familiar with workplace expectations and exhibit work behavior and attitudes necessary to compete successfully in the labor market. WEP may include specific hands-on-training. WEP may include child care service activities in which a participant provides child care for another participant's child who is a member of another assistance group. WEP may include Community Service activities including a program under which a participant of OWF who is responsible for a minor child enrolled in grade twelve or lower is involved in the minor child's education on a regular basis. An individual who is assigned to be involved with the minor child's education is required to attend academic home enrichment classes that provide instruction for parents in creating a home environment that prepares and enables children to learn at school and must participate in a work assignment at the school that the child attends.
- C Subsidized Employment Program (SEP) - a program in which individuals work with pay at job sites in public, private-non-profit or private-for-profit organizations in order to gain specific occupational training. In return for hiring the individual, a subsidy is provided to the employer for a specified period of time.
- C On-The-Job Training (OJT) - a program which combines classroom instruction and paid or unpaid work experience to improve individuals' skill development and assist them in obtaining, retaining, or improving employment.
- C Job Search and Job-Readiness Activities - programs which assist individuals in acquiring the life skills that are used in obtaining, retaining or improving employment; and those activities to seek and secure employment as directed and approved by the CDJFS.
- C Vocational Education - a program of education and training with a goal of enabling individuals to obtain employment. Vocational education includes college, technical, vocational, or other course work leading toward a degree, certificate or license. Study time may be included in this activity.
- C Job Skills Training - a program designed to increase individuals' employability potential. It may include college, technical, vocational, or other course work. It may include activities ensuring that participants become familiar with workplace expectations and exhibit work behavior and attitudes necessary to compete successfully in the labor market. Various types of structured programs would qualify, such as rehabilitation services, counseling, personal development and pre-employment classes. Study time may be included as part of this activity.

- C Education Related to Employment - any educational program provided to individuals who do not have a high school diploma or GED. Study time may be included as part of this activity.
  
- C Basic Education Activities - a program provided to individuals who do not possess basic literacy skills whether or not they have obtained a high school diploma or equivalent. Basic education may include high school or equivalent education and adult basic and literacy education. Study time may be included as part of this activity.

#### Developmental Activities

Developmental Activities are a special feature of the OWF program. For many assistance groups, Developmental Activities serve as a supplement to the Federal Work Activities, and are performed in hours required above and beyond the work hours that are required to satisfy the work participation requirements in P.L. 104-193. For other assistance groups, such as single-parents with children under age one who are exempt from the federal work requirement, Developmental Activities are assigned.

In establishing Developmental Activities, county departments are not limited by the restrictions that Title IV-A imposes on work activities. Developmental Activities may be the same as, similar to, or different from Federal Work Activities and Alternative Work Activities. Developmental Activities may be any type of activity that moves the family toward self-sufficiency. Because Developmental Activities are not limited to Federal Work Activities, participants assigned to these activities will not necessarily be counted in the numerator of the participation rate calculation. Examples of Developmental Activities include basic education, mental health counseling, or vocational rehabilitation services.

#### Alternative Work Activities

In cases where traditional work activities are unsuitable, and individuals are unable to fully participate in Federal Work Activities, individuals are placed in Alternative Work Activities appropriate to their specific circumstances and needs.

Participants placed in Alternative Work assignments are assigned to activities that may include, but are not limited to: 1) parenting classes and life-skills training; 2) participating in certified alcohol or drug addiction programs; 3) in the case of a homeless assistance group, finding a home; 3) in the case of a minor head of household or an adult with a disability, active work in an individual written rehabilitation plan with the Rehabilitation Services Commission; 4) in the case of a minor head of household or adult who has been the victim of domestic violence, residing in a domestic violence shelter, receiving counseling or treatment related to the domestic violence, or participating in criminal justice proceedings against the domestic violence offender.

Like Developmental Activities, Alternative Work Activities may be any activity that moves the family toward self-sufficiency. No more than twenty percent of adults and minor heads of households participating in OWF may be assigned to Alternative Work Activities. The CDJFS shall establish standards for determining whether an adult or minor head of household has a temporary or permanent barrier to participating in Federal Work Activities.

### *Work After Two Years*

Each CDJFS must immediately assess and assign at least one adult or minor head of household in each family to a Federal Work, Developmental or Alternative Work Activity at the time of, or as soon as possible after, application for OWF. ODJFS and each CDJFS understands that, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 602 (a)(1)(A)(ii), each family must be participating in some type of a work activity after receiving cash assistance for 24 months. Since Ohio requires individuals to be appraised and assigned to a work activity at the time of or as soon as possible after OWF application, all families should receive an assignment by the time the 24 month period is reached.

### *Community Service After Two Months*

Ohio will opt out of the provision, which requires a parent or caretaker receiving assistance under OWF to participate in community service after two months if the parent or caretaker is not engaged in or exempt from work activities (Appendix C). The Community Service Activity is not necessary to offer in Ohio because all adults and minor heads of household are assessed and assigned to Federal Work, Developmental, or Alternative Work Activities at the time of application for assistance.

### *Number of Hours Required to Work*

Single-parent assistance groups are required to participate in a Federal Work or Developmental Activity for at least 30 hours per week. Single-parent families with a child age 6 or over are required to participate at least 30 hours in a Federal Work Activity. Single-parent families with a child under the age of six are required to participate at least 30 hours in an activity, 20 of which must be in a Federal Work Activity and the remaining ten hours must be in a Federal Work Activity or a Developmental or Alternative Work activity.

Two-parent assistance groups are required to participate in a Federal Work Activity for at least 35 hours per week if the family is not receiving federally funded child care and 55 hours per week if the family is receiving federally funded child care. One parent may complete the requirement for the assistance group.

Single-parent families with a child under the age of one are required to participate in a Developmental Activity for the number of hours required by the county. The county has the option of assigning a parent with a child under the age of one to a Federal Work Activity and including that family in the federal participation rate calculation.

### *Ombudsperson*

Ohio statute requires each CDJFS to have at least one OWF ombudsperson. The OWF ombudsperson acts as a liaison between the OWF applicant/participant and the CDJFS.

### *Work Participation Rates*

Ohio will comply with provisions related to work participation rates outlined in 42 U.S.C. section 607.

### *Domestic Violence Option*

Ohio has elected not to take the domestic violence option at this time.

### *Application of Waivers*

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. section 615, Ohio will rely on one waiver that was previously approved; Ohio implemented its time limit waiver provision in July 1996 (TANF was implemented in 10/96) and the policies were continually applied through 9/30/97. Beginning 10/1/97, Ohio aligned its time limit policies with the requirements of 42 U.S.C. 608(a)(7). In addition, Ohio previously operated the LEAP program under an approved waiver that expired in June 2003. In accordance with 45 CFR section 260.75, Ohio submitted the required certification from Governor Bob Taft relating to waiver inconsistencies (see Appendix B).

## **Prevention, Retention & Contingency**

### *Services*

The PRC program provides benefits and services to needy families and low-income working families who are in need of help with essential supports to move out of poverty and achieve self-sufficiency. The program is designed to provide benefits and services that are not considered assistance in accordance with 45 CFR 260.31. The PRC program provides a broad variety of services and short-term benefits to needy families that are designed to accomplish one of the four purposes of TANF.

In addition, Ohio chooses to provide services authorized by the Title IV-A Plan that was in effect on August 21, 1996. This plan authorizes Ohio to fund certain medical and certain Child Welfare services with TANF dollars. The specific Title IV-A Plan is in Appendix A.

Prevention services are designed to be provided to a PRC assistance group (the PRC assistance group is not necessarily the same as an assistance group as defined in OWF) to divert them from ongoing cash assistance and help them reach self-sufficiency by helping them through the presenting crisis. Retention services are provided to the PRC assistance group to allow an employed member to maintain employment, and thereby achieve or continue self-sufficiency. Contingency services are provided to the PRC assistance group to meet an emergent need which, if not met, threatens the safety, health or well-being of one or more PRC assistance group members.

Among the TANF-allowable services that may be provided to TANF-eligibles are: services for unruly and misdemeanor youth; information and referral services to kinship caregivers concerning access to legal services, child care, respite care and financial assistance; adult literacy and child reading services; workforce development and supportive services; microenterprise development and other entrepreneurship activities; youth job training; job creation and retention services; teen pregnancy prevention services; out-of-wedlock pregnancy prevention services; school readiness services such as, counseling and placement, parent education and parent-child activities, peer support groups, and home visits; disaster relief; transportation services; domestic violence services; after-school programs; family preservation and reunification services; mediation services; employer recruitment; early childhood developmental and intervention services; Individual Development Account (IDA) match; and post-secondary education and job training.

### *PRC Administration*

Each County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) is required to adopt a written statement of policies governing the PRC program for the county. The statement of policies must be adopted not later than October 1, 2003 and must be updated at least every two years thereafter. A county department may amend its statement of policies at anytime.

In adopting a statement of policies for the county's PRC program, each CDJFS must establish or specify all of the following:

- Benefits and services to be provided under the program that are allowable uses of federal IV-A funds under 42 U.S.C. 601 and 604(a), except that they may not be "assistance" as defined in 45 C.F.R. 260.31(a) but rather benefits and services that 45 C.F.R. 260(b) excludes from the definition of assistance;
- Restrictions on the amount, duration, and frequency of the benefits and services;
- Eligibility requirements for the benefits and services;
- Fair and equitable procedures for both of the following:
  - The certification of eligibility for the benefits and services that do not have a financial need eligibility requirement;
  - The determination and verification of eligibility for the benefits and services that have a financial need eligibility requirement.
- Objective criteria for the delivery of the benefits and services;
- Administrative requirements; and,
- Other matters the county department determines are necessary.

Each CDJFS must ensure that the statement of policies is consistent with Title IV-A, federal regulations, state law, the Title IV-A state plan submitted to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, and amendments to the plan.

In addition, each CDJFS must provide the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) with a written copy of the statement of policies and any amendments to the statement not later than ten calendar days after the statement or amendment's effective date. The receipt of these plans does not constitute an approval or disapproval of the policies and practices outlined by the counties and does not represent the concurrence of the State with any claims by the County.

Each county's Prevention, Retention, & Contingency Plan can be accessed at:

<http://www.state.oh.us/odjfs/owf/prc/>

## **Separate State Program**

*Alcohol/Drug Treatment Program* - In Ohio, as in many states, drug and alcohol addiction plays an ever increasing role in family dysfunction as well as economic and social dependency. In order to better address this underlying cause of dependency, Ohio has created a Separate State Program to provide for prevention and treatment services for youth and adults where drug and alcohol abuse threatens their ability to become economically self-sufficient and to care for children in their own home.

Services will be provided to members of needy families with dependent children under 200% of poverty. The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) administers this program in accordance with an interagency agreement between ODADAS and ODJFS. ODADAS will work closely with the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Boards, Alcohol, and Drug Addiction Services Boards, County Departments of Job and Family Services, Public Children Services Agencies and local providers to identify the service needs of the target population and develop service interventions appropriate to those needs.

## **Other TANF-Funded Benefits and Services**

ODJFS administers other TANF-funded programs and components of Title IV-A programs, which provide the following benefits and services to TANF-eligible individuals, as established by the Ohio General Assembly or Executive Order issued by the Governor. The benefits and services provided under this section are not considered assistance as defined in 45 CFR ' 260.31(a) and are benefits and services that 45 CFR ' 260.31(b) excludes from the definition of assistance.

*TANF Education Program - Head Start Services Component* - This component is administered by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), in accordance with the terms of an interagency agreement between ODE and ODJFS. The program provides TANF-allowable services to TANF-eligible children and families with income at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level. Families above 100% of the federal poverty level may be served if the family is also in receipt of the state child care subsidy and the child is served in a Head Start/child care partnership model. The current child care subsidy eligibility limits are described under the Child Care Subsidy Program on the following page.

Head Start services are focused on the importance of early childhood and family development. They are targeted toward providing children aged three to five with activities and opportunities that are designed to improve the cognitive abilities of young children in preparation for their entry into kindergarten.

*TANF Housing Program* - The TANF Housing Program is administered by the Ohio Department of Development (DOD) in accordance with an interagency agreement between DOD and ODJFS. The program provides TANF-allowable supportive services for TANF-eligible low-income families related to housing or homelessness, including housing counseling; to provide grants to nonprofit organizations to assist Title IV-A eligible families with income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines with down-payment assistance for home ownership or down-payment assistance toward the purchase of mobile homes, to provide emergency home repair funding for Title IV-A eligible families with income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; to provide operating support for family emergency shelter programs for families at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines; and to provide emergency rent and mortgage assistance for families with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

*Child Care Subsidy Program* - In Ohio, TANF funds may specifically be used to support Ohio's state child care subsidy program in the provision of services to:

- C OWF families,
- C Families who leave OWF due to employment, and;
- C Low-income employed families with incomes at or below 150% of the federal poverty level at the time of application for child care subsidy services. Eligible families may continue to receive services until their income exceeds 185% of the federal poverty level. After September 30, 2003, eligible families may continue to receive services until their income exceeds 165% of the federal poverty level.

*Adoption Services* - Federal TANF funds will be used to recruit, promote and support the formation and maintenance of two-parent adoptive families under purpose 4 (segregated Federal TANF funds) and for needy single-parent adoptive families (at or below 120% of the state median income scaled by family size, including the child(ren) to be adopted). Post finalization case management services will be provided to ensure the success of these placements and to prevent disruption of the families.

### **Additional Provisions**

#### *Fair & Equitable Treatment*

Under OWF and PRC, benefits and services are deemed inalienable. Ohio shall therefore determine eligibility and deliver benefits in a manner consistent with 42 U.S.C. section 602(a)(1)(B)(iii). All applicants and participants will be treated in a fair and equitable manner, including those who move to Ohio from another state, those participants who have been adversely affected and claim hearing rights, and, to the extent allowable under Federal law, legal aliens who are not United States citizens.

An appellant who appeals under Federal or State law a decision or order of a job and family services agency, shall be granted a state hearing by ODJFS at the appellant's request. A state hearing decision is binding upon the agency and department, unless reversed or modified on appeal to the director of the department of job and family services or a court of common pleas. An appellant who disagrees with a state hearing decision may make an administrative appeal to the director of the department of job and family services, who shall review it and may affirm, modify, remand, or reverse the state hearing decision.

#### *Confidentiality Provisions*

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. section 602(a)(1)(A)(iv), ODJFS will take steps to ensure the confidentiality of all information collected in Ohio's TANF-funded programs. Under the guidelines established that govern Ohio's TANF plan, no person or government entity shall solicit, disclose, receive, use or knowingly permit or participate in the use of any information regarding a TANF client for any purpose not directly connected with the administration of the TANF program. To the extent permitted under Federal law, the State will:

- C Release information regarding a TANF recipient for purposes directly connected to the administration of the TANF program to a government entity responsible for administering financial assistance, medical assistance, or social services provided under a program administered by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services or any other State, Federal or Federally-assisted program that provides cash or in-kind assistance, or services to individuals based on need or for the purpose of protecting children to a governmental entity responsible for administering a children's protective program;

- C Provide information on TANF recipients to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of an investigation, prosecution, or criminal or civil proceeding that is related to the administration of a public assistance program or upon request to a law enforcement agency for the purposes of investigations, prosecution, and criminal and civil proceedings that are within the scope of the law enforcement agencies' duties;
- C Provide information to the following persons: the recipient, an authorized representative of the recipient, a parent/guardian of the recipient, and the attorney of the recipient, if the attorney has the recipient's written authorization;
- C Provide information if the recipient gives written consent and specifically identifies the persons or government entities to which the information may be released. The consent may be time limited or ongoing but the consent must state that consent may be rescinded.

ODJFS will also enter into written agreements with law enforcement agencies to share information about public assistance recipients to determine whether a recipient or a member of the recipient's assistance group is either a fugitive felon or violating a condition of probation, a community control sanction, parole, or a post-release control sanction imposed under state or federal law. This sharing of information is necessary in order to comply with the prohibitions on assistance to fugitive felons and parole violators that are established in section 408 of the PRWORA.

#### *Out-of-Wedlock Pregnancies*

The goal of reducing out-of-wedlock births is largely county-focused through a county's PRC plan. Specific county goals are listed within Appendix D.

#### *Statutory Rape*

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. section 602(a)(1)(A)(vi), as part of ODJFS' TANF program, the State plans to contract with an outside vendor to devise and operate a public outreach program related to statutory rape. The program will target law enforcement officials, educational institutions, and relevant counseling agencies, and will encourage these groups and individuals to include men in teen pregnancy prevention programs, to the extent that statutory rape is a contributing factor to teen pregnancy.

#### *Treatment of Individuals Moving From Other States*

For the purposes of benefits and services offered under Ohio's TANF-funded programs, Ohio will treat individuals who have moved from other states within the last twelve months no differently from residents who have resided in the state for more than twelve months.

#### *Treatment of Aliens*

ODJFS provides OWF cash assistance and other TANF-funded services and benefits to qualified aliens to the extent allowable under Federal law, and in the same manner as they are provided to residents of Ohio.

- C Each member of the eligible assistance group must be a citizen or qualified alien.
- C Non-citizens who enter the U.S. Prior to August 22, 1996, and are in a qualified alien status, qualified

aliens who are exempted from the 5-year bar as provided for in section 403 (b) of PRWORA, as amended [8 U.S.C. 1613(b)], and those qualified aliens for whom the 5-year bar has expired are eligible for benefits and services to the same extent as citizens and must meet all of the same eligibility requirements.

- C Qualified aliens who enter the U. S. on or after August 22, 1996, are not eligible for cash assistance for a period of 5 years except for those qualified aliens exempted from the 5 year bar, based upon Title IV, Section 403 of the PRWORA as amended (8 USC 1613).
- C Victims of severe forms of trafficking are eligible for benefits and services to the same extent as an alien admitted to the U.S. as a refugee under U.S.C. 7107 (b)(1)(A).

### **Family Supports**

The following support services are offered to individuals to help them maintain their jobs:

- C **Medicaid Eligibility.** To the extent allowed by law, Medicaid eligibility is aligned with eligibility for the Ohio Works First program, so that all participants have access to quality health care. Upon leaving OWF, former participants may have up to one year of extended Medicaid eligibility to help them make the transition from public assistance to self-sufficiency. Additionally, many families who are diverted or sanctioned from public assistance may still be eligible for Medicaid through the Ohio Heathy Start and Healthy Families programs.
- C **Transportation.** OWF work participants must have access to employment opportunities in order to successfully enter and remain in the labor force. For this reason, state law requires each board of county commissioners to develop a written transportation plan that establishes policies regarding the transportation needs of low income residents of the county seeking or striving to retain employment. In developing the transportation plan, the board is required to consult with various entities within the county including the county department of job and family services.
- C **Child Care Assistance.** Reliable child care is essential for families to obtain and retain long-term employment. In addition, families participating in employment and training programs require child care assistance. For these reasons, OWF participants with children under 13 years old are eligible for subsidized child care, with the subsidies varying according to the income of the assistance group. Child care is guaranteed to OWF participants and to families who leave OWF for employment for up to one year, or until their income exceeds 150% of the federal poverty level. All families with income up to 185% (through 9/30/03, then 165%) of the federal poverty level may be eligible for non-guaranteed child care assistance. The state child care subsidy program is funded with Ohio General Revenue, CCDF, TANF and SSBG funds.
- C **Food Stamps.** OWF participants are considered categorically eligible for participation in the Ohio Food Stamp program. Additionally, individuals leaving OWF may continue to be eligible if their income remains below 133% of the poverty level and they meet all other eligibility criteria of the Food Stamp program. Ohio expanded categorical eligibility to cover the four purposes of the TANF block grant in accordance with 7 CFR 273.2(j)(2)(ii).

C Service Integration. County Departments of Job and Family Services are proactively involved in local service integration to serve TANF eligible families. Each county is required by Ohio Statute to have a Family Services Planning Committee to provide County Commissioners advice on implementation, administration, and evaluation of social service programs in the county. In addition, each county is encouraged to engage in a community planning process. These efforts are designed to help counties determine the needs in the county and to develop goals and strategies necessary to serve those needs and meet those goals. These efforts are intended to link public and private service providers with needs of low income families and employers.

## **Section III GOVERNANCE**

### **State-County Relationship**

#### *Fiscal Agreements*

With the provision of TANF-funded services (i.e., OWF and PRC) in Ohio, each Board of County Commissioners may elect to enter into a biennial Fiscal Agreement with ODJFS. The Agreement serves as the basis for funding counties under a “consolidated allocation” which combines eleven distinct appropriations into a single allocation. The county department may not use the money in the consolidated allocation for a purpose other than a purpose for which any of those appropriation items are made. Counties that have elected to forgo a Fiscal Agreement will receive separate appropriation allocations instead of a consolidated allocation.

The purpose of the Fiscal Agreement is to establish requirements governing reporting, cash management, audits, allowable use of funds, and other requirements to provide accountability for the use of financial assistance awarded by ODJFS. If there is not a Fiscal Agreement in effect between ODJFS and the Board of County Commissioners, the county family services agency will be accountable for the same financial management requirements as an agency that is included in a Fiscal Agreement. ODJFS has the authority to adopt internal management rules governing reporting, cash management, audits, allowable uses of funds, and other requirements to provide accountability for the use of financial assistance awarded by ODJFS.

#### *Community Plans*

Each Board of County Commissioners must establish a County Family Services Planning Committee to address the service needs of the county and make recommendations to the County Commissioners. The Planning Committee is encouraged to develop a County Community Plan designed to identify the county's goals and objectives under the OWF and PRC programs, and the strategies the county will utilize in achieving desired outcomes. While the plan is the end product and ultimately becomes the county's road map, it is the planning process that produces the greatest benefits for the community. The involvement of community stakeholders may maximize the utilization of resources and lead to consensus on strategies outlined in the plan.

### **Fiscal Responsibility**

To recognize the joint responsibility for client outcomes that the State and counties share, any Federal sanction imposed on Ohio will be shared among the State and counties. The State will assume 50 percent of the State share of any Federal sanction, and the remainder of the penalty will be distributed proportionately among the counties that were responsible for the imposition of the sanction.

### **Separate State Program and Other TANF-Funded Benefits and Services**

Ohio's Separate State Program and other TANF-funded benefits and services are administered in accordance with respective interagency agreements or contracts. A more detailed discussion of these is provided in Section II.

## Draw Down of Federal Funds

U.S.C. 42 Section 603(a)(1)(A), as amended provides that each eligible State shall be entitled to receive for each of the fiscal years 1996 through 2003, a grant in the amount equal to the State family assistance grant as defined in section 603(a)(1)(B).

### 1. Payments to Agency Administering the TANF Program

Payments for the TANF program will be made to the organization managing the AFDC/JOBS programs as of August 22, 1996, unless the State indicates that the TANF administering agency has changed. If a change is made, describe the name, address and EIN of the new organization.

### II State Payments for TANF Program

Section 605 requires that grants be paid to States in quarterly installments, based on State estimates. The State's estimate for each quarter of the fiscal year by percentage is:

#### **For FY 2000 and Future Years**

<u>1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	<u>4<sup>th</sup></u>
<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
20.00%	20.00%	30.00%	30.00%

STATE OF OHIO  
**Executive Department**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

**CERTIFICATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR OF OHIO IN SUPPORT OF THE OHIO  
PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF TANF GRANT**

I, Bob Taft, Governor of the State of Ohio and, in accordance with Article III, Section 5 of the Ohio Constitution vested with the supreme executive power of the State, do hereby make the following certifications in support of the Ohio State Plan for implementation of the federal Block Grant for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

1. During each fiscal year the State will operate a child support enforcement program under the State Plan approved under part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act.
2. During each fiscal year the State will operate a foster care and adoption assistance program under the State plan approved under part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act and will take such actions as are necessary to ensure that children receiving assistance under such part are eligible for medical assistance under the State plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act.
3. During each fiscal year the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will supervise the administration of the program by the County Departments of Job and Family Services, and the State department assures that local governments and private sector organizations have been consulted regarding the plan and design of welfare services in the State so that services are provided in a manner appropriate to local populations. The plan was finalized at the conclusion of a 45-day public comment period, which occurred between August 1, 2002 and September 15, 2002. The public comment period was accomplished by posting the TANF State Plan on the Department's Internet home page, and by mailing or e-mailing notification to the local government and private sector organizations that are on the Department's mailing list.
4. During each fiscal year the State will provide each member of an Indian tribe, who is domiciled in the State and is not eligible for assistance under a tribal family assistance plan approved under section 412, with equitable access to assistance under the State program funded under this part attributable to funds provided by the Federal Government.
5. The State has established and is enforcing standards and procedures to ensure against program fraud and abuse, including standards and procedures concerning nepotism, conflicts of interest among individuals responsible for the administration and supervision of the State program, kickbacks, and the use of political patronage.

12/5/02  
DATE

  
BOB TAFT, GOVERNOR

## **APPENDIX**

- A. Title IV-A State Plan in effect on August 21, 1996
- B. Governor Taft's Letter and Certifications regarding Waiver Inconsistencies
- C. Letter Exercising Option to Disregard Requirement to Place TANF Participants in Community Service after Two Months of Receiving Benefits
- D. Teen Births Chart (Revised 11/03)

**Appendix A**

**Title IV-A State Plan In Effect on August 21, 1996**

IV-A STATE OF OHIO

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CITATIONS  
233.120

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

A. Kinds of emergencies covered.

Situations in which lack of food, clothing, shelter, appliances, or medical supplies may lead to the destitution of a child. Also covered are situations in which a family is encountering an emergency that could lead, or has led, within the past six months, to removal of a child from the family's home due to child abuse, neglect or dependency.

B. Kinds of assistance provided to meet emergency situations.

Emergency assistance payments may not be issued in a warrant payable to the recipient. Emergency Assistance payments may be in the form of a relief supply order or by warrant payable to the provider of the service.

C. Kinds of service provided to meet the emergency situations.

- (1) Food - When there is no eligibility for food stamps.
- (2) Necessary clothing - Replace items lost or destroyed due to a natural disaster such as fire, flood, tornado, blizzard, or chemical disaster or due to a state of civil disorder as declared by the Governor of Ohio.
- (3) Household items - Limited to replacement of bedding, linens, and cooking/eating utensils lost or destroyed due to a natural disaster such as fire, flood, tornado, blizzard, or chemical disaster or due to a state of civil disorder as declared by the Governor of Ohio.

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Date 02/08/96

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Date 07/01/95

IV-A STATE OF OHIO

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C. Kinds of service provided. (continued)

- (4) Furniture - Limited to the replacement of bed (bed frame, mattress, box spring) and kitchen table and chairs when lost or destroyed due to a natural disaster such as fire, flood, tornado, blizzard, or chemical disaster, or due to a state of civil disorder as declared by the Governor of Ohio.
  
- (5) Appliances - Limited to the repair or replacement of cooking stoves, heating stoves, refrigerators, and, if needed, due to a verified medical disability of a household member, washing machines.
  
- (6) Home repairs - Limited to those affecting the basic structures or the home including wall, roof, flooring, plumbing, water supply, electric, heating, and water/sewage system.
  
- (7) Rent - When there is a court-ordered eviction pending or when the conditions of the home cause it to be uninhabitable.
  
- (8) Interest on principal of mortgage - Must serve to forestall foreclosure on the home.
  
- (9) Emergency Family Housing - Used only in extreme situations, when an individual/family is homeless and has no alternative living arrangement available, to provide temporary housing or arrange permanent housing.
  
- (10) Security deposits - Issued only when the landlord will not waive it and when the individual / family is homeless due to court-ordered eviction, uninhabitable conditions of the previous home due to natural or chemical disaster, living in temporary shelter, or forced to live in a domestic violence shelter.
  
- (11) Heating fuel and utilities - Includes any type of fuel used to provide heating for the home, electricity, water, cooking fuel.
  
- (12) Deposit for heating fuel or utilities - Issued only when the provider will not waive it and a deposit is necessary to establish, maintain, or restore service.

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IV-A STATE OF OHIO

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C. Kinds of service provided. (continued)

(13) Telephone installation - Issued only when medically verified as necessary.

(14) Medical service - Includes payment for medical supplies (hypodermic needles and syringes for diabetic, oxygen, catheters, etc), laboratory and x-ray services, pharmaceutical supplies (prescription drugs, insulin, no "medicine cabinet" items such as first aid supplies, vitamins, etc), licensed physician care (limited to the minimum appropriate procedure needed to relieve the pain), and dental care (limited to minimum procedure needed to relieve pain or infection).

(15) Family preservation/reunification services - Includes diagnostic services, emergency caretaker services, home health aide services, home maker services, parent education services, in-home services, respite care services, special services for alcohol and drug abusers, therapeutic counseling, transportation services, domestic violence services, emergency shelter, post finalization services. See attachment 3-C for service definitions contained in Ohio Administrative Code Rule 5101:2-39-01.

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Effective  
Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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CITATIONS

233.120

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Other eligibility requirements are in effect.

1. Voluntary residence within the state with intent to remain permanently or for an indefinite period of time is a requirement.

Residency may be established when an individual is not receiving assistance from another state and/or has entered the state with a job commitment or seeking employment.

2. Co-payment is that portion of the cost of EA items for which the family is responsible. The net income in excess of the financial eligibility standard for the appropriate household size as set forth in attachment 3-D is considered available towards the emergent need. This is the income which remains after all deductions as set forth in attachment 3-D are allowed.

In computing the amount of resources available for co-payment the first \$50 is exempt. Any liquid assets of the assistance group in excess of \$50 are considered countable resources to be applied toward the emergent need as a co-payment.

Liquid assets are those resources which are in cash or payable in cash upon demand. For EA purposes, liquid assets are those which can be converted to cash within the budget period as defined in state policy so that the funds are available to help meet the emergent need. The most common types of liquid assets are cash on hand, saving accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, promissory notes, and burial accounts.

The countable income and countable resources are added together to become the family's co-payment. The co-payment amount is the family's obligation to pay towards the emergent need. The co-payment is then applied toward the emergent need to determine the amount of the FEA payment. If the co-payment is equal to or exceeds the emergent need, no FEA payment is made. If co-payment is less than the emergent need, the amount of co-payment is applied towards the emergent need and the FEA payment is issued along with the co-payment to meet the total amount needed to meet the emergency.

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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Other eligibility requirements are in effect.(cont.)

2. Co-payment may be waived upon approval of the CDHS Director or his designee in situations in which income anticipated to be received during the budget period must be used for payment of another bill which, if not paid promptly, would create another emergent situations.

The co-payment requirement is waived in emergency situations that could lead to the removal of a child from the family's home and in emergency situations involving the return of a child in substitute care to his family's home.

3. In no instances will emergency assistance be issued to cover needs for more than 180 days.

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IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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CITATIONS

233.120

FAMILY PRESERVATION/REUNIFICATION DEFINITIONS AS CON-  
TAINED IN OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 5101:2-39-01

1. DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES -

Medical, psychiatric, or psychological services performed by a licensed physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, licensed professional counselor with clinical endorsement, or a licensed independent social worker for the purpose of evaluating an individuals current physical, emotional, or mental condition.

2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES -

The provision of direct assistance to victims of domestic violence and their dependents for the purpose of preventing further violence. This includes services such as meals, transportation, housing, information referral, legal advocacy, children's counseling and supportive services.

3. EMERGENCY CARETAKER SERVICES -

Services provided by a person placed within a child's own home to act as a temporary caretaker when the child's own caretaker is unable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibility.

4. EMERGENCY SHELTER -

The short-term crisis placement of any child who is threatened or alleged to be abused, neglected, or dependent or an extent that there is imminent risk to the child's life, physical or mental health, or safety.

5. HOME HEALTH AIDE SERVICES -

Personal care and maintenance activities provided to individuals for the purpose of promoting normal standards of health and hygiene. Services are provided during periods of disability, illness, or in the presence of any such condition that prohibits the individual from performing daily living tasks. This includes services such as assistance with bathing, grooming, walking, getting in and out of bed, and nutrition.

6. HOMEMAKER SERVICES -

Professionally directed or supervised simple household maintenance or management services provided by trained homemakers or individuals in their own home. This includes services such as basic cleaning, shopping, laundry, food preparation, check-cashing, bill paying and any other such tasks as may be necessary to strengthen or enhance the individual's or family ability to function in their own house.

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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7. IN-HOME SERVICES -

Services provided intensively to children and families in their own homes. The service is multi-faced, immediate, intense, family-oriented, and generally time limited.

8. PARENT EDUCATION SERVICES -

A teaching process to assist a parent, guardian, or custodian in developing the basic skills necessary to provide adequate care and support to a child in his own home.

9. POST FINALIZATION SERVICES -

Services provided and arranged by the PCSA and PCPA to support, maintain and assist an adoptive family after finalization of an adoption.

10. SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSERS -

Services to provide a rehabilitation program for alcohol and drug dependent persons. Service activities includes:

- " Work with the individual, family members, and appropriate social service agencies to develop and carry out an individual rehabilitation plan.
- " Providing or arranging for individual, family and group counseling.
- " Services to assist the individual to recognize the danger of continued substance abuse.
- " Providing or arranging for alcohol or drug detoxification medical services in a facility, including room or board costs; not to exceed seven days.

11. THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING -

Includes psychiatric or psychological services performed by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist, licensed or certified social worker or a licensed professional counselor to correct or alleviate any mental or emotional handicap or disorder of a person.

12. TRANSPORTATION SERVICES -

Arrange or provide transportation to and from needed resources and facilities. (It may include the provision of escort assistance).

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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13. RESPITE CARE SERVICES -

Services designed to provide temporary relief of child-caring functions which includes services such as crisis nurseries, day treatment, protective day care, and volunteers or paid individuals who provide such services within the home and may include respite care for children placed in foster homes or with relatives.

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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CITATIONS  
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Financial Eligibility Chart

The following chart is used in determining financial eligibility for EA.

<u>Number in Assistance Group</u>	<u>Financial Eligibility Standard</u>
1	\$368
2	498
3	627
4	757
5	886
6	1015
7	1144
8	1273
9	1402
10	1531
11	1660
12	1789
13	1918
14	2047
15	2176

Add \$129 to the financial eligibility standard for each person above 15, i.e., a family of 20 would receive \$2821.

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Date 09/01/94

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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Earned Income Deductions

Deductions for work-related expenses may be allowed from the gross earnings of each employed assistance group member to arrive at net income. Because of the nature of EA, it may not always be possible to verify the exact amount of work-related expenses in a timely manner. Therefore, the amount of the work expenses to be disregarded is calculated by either one of the following methods:

- (1) If verification of work expenses is not readily available, the eligibility determiner will deduct the first \$90 from the gross earnings. In addition, if there are child care costs, the actual charge up to a maximum of \$175 per child or \$200 if the child is under the age of two, is deducted. The \$90 and \$175 (or \$200 if child is under the age of two) disregards are not adjusted for part-time employment.
- (2) If verification of work expenses is readily available, the actual verified amounts which will be deducted from the gross earnings or paid by the individual during the 30-day period are disregarded from gross earnings.

Following is list of the earned income exclusions to be deducted from gross earnings of each employed member of the assistance group when allowing the actual verified costs. This list is all-inclusive and may not be expanded:

- (1) Mandatory deductions of involuntarily withheld, income taxes (federal, state, and city), social security, compulsory retirement, unemployment, and disability insurance contributions.
- (2) Transportation to and from work. A mileage allowance equal to the amount which is reimbursed to state staff is deducted when the individual uses his own vehicle.
- (3) Child care costs.
- (4) Expenses for union dues involuntarily withheld.
- (5) Miscellaneous deductions required by the employer.

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Date 09/01/94

IV-A

STATE OF OHIO

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Other Income Exclusions

For the determination of EA, there are two additional income exclusions. These may be excluded from either earned or unearned income. The amount of the exclusion is limited to the actual verified expense.

The two additional income exclusions are:

- (1) Court-ordered child support and alimony when paid to an individual not included in the eligible assistance group.
- (2) Court-ordered garnisheed payments.

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Date 09/01/94

Effective  
Date 09/01/94

**Appendix B**

**Governor Taft's Letter and Certifications  
Regarding Waiver Inconsistencies**

Bob Taft  
Governor



Jacqueline Romer-Sensky  
Director

## Ohio Department of Human Services

30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0423

July 22, 1999

Joyce Thomas  
Hub Director  
105 West Adams Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Dear Ms. Thomas,

In accordance with federal TANF regulations at 45 CFR 260.75, Ohio is submitting the required certification from Governor Bob Taft relating to waiver inconsistencies. The two specific waivers that Ohio is addressing are the LEAP waiver and the time limit waiver operated under our "Ohio First" terms and conditions.

If there are any questions relating to the waiver inconsistencies, please contact Jeanne Carroll of the Bureau of Family Stability at 614/466-3698.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline Romer-Sensky".

Jacqueline Romer-Sensky  
Director

JRS:jf  
Attachment

**OHIO**  
the heart of it all!

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

**CERTIFICATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR OF OHIO  
REGARDING CLAIMS OF WAIVER INCONSISTENCIES IN  
THE TANF PROGRAM**

I, Bob Taft, Governor of the State of Ohio and, in accordance with Article III, Section 5 of the Ohio Constitution vested with the supreme executive power of the State, do hereby make the attached certifications which claim waiver inconsistencies exist in Ohio's TANF program for work and time limit policies.

*Bob Taft*

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BOB TAFT  
GOVERNOR

## **CERTIFICATIONS FOR LEAP WAIVER:**

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### **260.75(a)(1):**

Existing LEAP policies have been continually applied since September 1, 1996 (Ohio implemented its TANF program October 1, 1996). Ohio initially implemented the LEAP waiver in September 1989.

### **260.75(a)(2):**

Ohio's LEAP technical waivers allow the state to conduct the demonstration statewide for all pregnant and parenting teens under the age of 20 who do not possess a high school diploma or its equivalent. Specifically, Ohio was granted a waiver of Sections 402(a)(19)(A), (C)(iii), (v), (vi) (E) of the Social Security Act and various provisions of the regulations at 45 CFR 250.30(b)(1), (8) and (9), 250.32 and 250.41.

### **260.75(b):**

Inconsistencies exist with respect to exemptions from the LEAP program, with special requirements concerning educational activities in determining monthly participation rates and with respect to applicable sanctions at Section 408(a)(4) of the Act.

### **260.75(b)(1)(i):**

In accordance with the LEAP waiver, the following two-parent and all-parent cases are exempt from participation for the purpose of determining the denominator of the work participation rate:

- (1) the teen is the primary caregiver of a child who is less than six weeks old.
- (2) child care services are necessary for the teen to attend school, but child care is unavailable.
- (3) transportation to or from the teen's school is necessary and there is no public, private, or CDHS-supported transportation available.
- (4) transportation to or from child care is necessary and there is no public, private, or CDHS-supported transportation available.
- (5) the teen is reasonably prevented from attending school by a physical or mental illness which is expected to last one month or longer.
- (6) the child of the teen parent is ill with a physical or mental illness which is expected to last at least one month or longer and this requires full-time care by the teen.
- (7) the teen is unable to attend school because the teen was expelled from school and another school or GED program is not available because:
  - (A) there is no public or private school or GED program within reasonable travel time or distance which will accept the teen;

(B) there is no public, private, or CDHS-supported transportation available to another school or GED program; or

(C) there is a public or private school which will accept the teen but the tuition charge is prohibitive and the teen's school district refuses to pay the tuition.

(8) there are other exceptional circumstances that reasonably prevent the teen from attending school.

Ohio will include the case in the numerator and denominator if another individual in the family meets the standard for being “engaged in work”.

**260.75(b)(1)(ii):**

In accordance with the LEAP waiver, all non-exempt two-parent and all-parent cases will be required to attend secondary school or the equivalent and will be required to meet the minimum attendance requirements in accordance with state policy. It should be noted that, due to their age, some LEAP teens attend elementary or middle schools to fulfill their LEAP requirements. These requirements apply to all pregnant or parenting teens under the age of 20 regardless of marital status or head-of-household designation.

Individuals required to participate in the LEAP program who are age 18 and over may meet the LEAP program requirements through participation in work activities in place of educational activities if it is determined that participation in educational activities is inappropriate.

For the duration of the waiver, LEAP teens who are deemed to be engaged in work by participating in LEAP activities will be excluded from the 30% limit specified in 45 CFR Section 261.33.

**260.75(b)(1)(iii):**

Teens subject to LEAP requirements receive a sanction in the following situations:

- T** Failure, without good cause, to meet the assessment and orientation, school enrollment, regular attendance requirement, or to cooperate with home-based case management, as assigned, results in a \$62 reduction in the OWF payment.
  
- T** Individuals who have had two consecutive sanctions are required to participate in a face-to-face interview to resolve issues or barriers. Failure, without good cause, to attend the face-to-face interview or to comply with LEAP requirements following the interview results in the imposition of the \$62 sanction for a period of six months or until compliance. The calculation of the six-month period includes the two-consecutive months which prompted the face-to-face interview.
  
- T** If the individual has not complied by the end of the six-month sanction period, the OWF payment is decreased by the amount for the individual required to participate and for any child or children of such individual in the assistance group.
  
- T** Teens age 18 or over who meet LEAP program requirements through participation in work activities are subject to Ohio’s progressive full-family sanction, in lieu of the above sanctions.

## **CERTIFICATIONS FOR TIME LIMIT WAIVER:**

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### **260.75(a)(1):**

Ohio implemented its time limit waiver provision in July 1996 (TANF was implemented in 10/96) and the policies were continually applied through 9/30/97. Beginning 10/1/97, Ohio aligned its time limit policies with the requirements of Section 408(a)(7) of the Social Security Act.

### **260.75(a)(2):**

One of our technical waivers for the “Ohio First” demonstration permits Ohio to conduct a demonstration statewide that allows the state to establish time limits for the receipt of benefits and exemptions from those limits. Receipt of cash benefits was limited to 36 months out of any 60 month period for assistance groups headed by adults. Specifically, Ohio was granted a waiver of Section 402(a) of the Social Security Act to enable the state to establish time limits for the receipt of benefits and exemptions from those limits.

### **260.75(b):**

Inconsistencies existed from 10/1/96 through 9/30/97 with respect to exemptions from the time limit, with respect to the applicability of time limits to the control and experimental groups and with respect to the effect of the time limit on individuals who were not exempt from the time limit.

### **260.75(b)(2)&(3):**

In accordance with the time limit waiver, the following cases were exempt from 10/1/96 through 10/1/97 and therefore, any month in which the adult was exempt will be excluded from the determination of the number of months of federal assistance received by the family during that time period:

- T** the assistance group consisted of a dependent child who resided with a caretaker relative who was not a required member of the assistance group
- T** the assistance group was one for which staff of the local county department of human services determined that the time limit would impose a hardship (a local department could exempt up to 15% of the county’s recipient population for this reason.
- T** the assistance group was headed by an individual who was exempt from JOBS (this reason would encompass all the prior law JOBS exemptions)
- T** the assistance group was headed by an individual who was not able to actively participate in a JOBS component because he/she was on a waiting list as maintained by the county department of human services; or
- T** other good cause existed as determined by criteria established by the county department of human services. Good cause included, at least, the inability, through no fault of the individual, to obtain or retain employment at or after the expiration of the time limit which provides income, in combination with other income, which equals the cash payment standard plus the work expense deduction. The state could specify that individuals in such cases must have substantially complied with all JOBS requirements and may not have voluntarily turned down or terminated employment or substantially reduced hours of employment, without good cause as established in state policy approved by the department.

During the period 10/1/96 through 9/30/97, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the demonstration, Ohio implemented a random assignment evaluation. Ohio chooses to exclude cases assigned to the experimental and control groups during that time period, which were not otherwise exempt, for the purpose of determining compliance with the federal time limit.

We agree with the provision in 45 CFR section 260.74(b)(1) that states that generally a state will count , toward the Federal five-year limit, all months for which the head-of-household or spouse of the head-of-household subject to the state time limit receives assistance with federal TANF funds, just as it would if it did not have an approved waiver. However, the manner in which Ohio applied the time limit to non-exempt cases is inconsistent with the time limit requirements of section 408(a)(7) of the Act. Under Ohio's time limit for the period 10/1/96 through 9/30/97, receipt of cash benefits was limited to 36 months out of any 60 month period rather than to a lifetime limit of 60 months. Individuals who were subject to Ohio's waiver time limits would be unfairly disadvantaged by retroactively counting their months of receipt toward the federal lifetime limit of 60 months.

Based on the stated inconsistency, any month in which the non-exempt adult received benefits during the period 10/1/96 through 9/30/97 will be excluded from the determination of the number of months of federal assistance received by the family.

## **Appendix C**

### **Letter Exercising Option to Disregard Requirement to Place TANF Participants in Community Service After Two Months of Receiving Benefits**



GEORGE V. VOINOVICH  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

COLUMBUS 43266-0601

August 18, 1997

Donna Shalala, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify the Department of Health & Human Services that the State of Ohio will exercise the option provided in P.L. 104-193 Section 602(a)(1)(B)(iv) which allows states to disregard the requirement to place TANF participants into community service if they are required to work but have not become engaged in work after two months of receiving benefits.

Ohio Works First (OWF), which becomes effective October 1, 1997, provides for much more stringent requirements than P.L. 104-193. OWF requires individuals to enter into a self sufficiency contract within 30 days of applying for assistance. As part of that contract, participants are required to perform work activities which are tailored to meet the needs of the assistance group and will help them achieve self sufficiency within a three year time limit. OWF requirements will put participants to work sooner than P.L. 104-193 and will ensure that the work assignment is appropriate for the client.

In addition, as Governor of Ohio, I remain concerned that the federal government is attempting to require states to place clients into community service activities without clear guidance on the applicability of the Fair Labor Standards Act provisions. Federal guidance indicates the FLSA would apply to these work slots. However, what is not clear is how states are to address issues like workers compensation benefits, unemployment compensation benefits, FICA and other employer taxes. If these slots are to be treated as regular work slots, as the federal policy implies, the costs of these additional employer taxes would be prohibitive to organizations who will take welfare participants under the community work experience program.

In closing, Ohio has chosen to opt out of the provisions of P.L. 104-193 Section 602(a)(1)(B)(iv) in order to implement a more meaningful program to help Ohioans become self sufficient. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Governor George V. Voinovich

c: Arnold Tompkins  
c:\tan\0822

**Appendix D**  
**Teen Birth Charts**

**TEEN BIRTHS: PAST PERFORMANCE**

County	Goal 2000 (set in 1995)		Actual 2000		Percent of Goal To Actual	
	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000*	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000*	Births	Rate of Births*
Ohio	19,939	26.1	18,761	23.3	106.28%	112.02%
Adams	74	35.4	71	34.8	104.23%	101.72%
Allen	268	33.0	243	31.1	110.29%	106.11%
Ashland	71	19.2	74	18.5	95.95%	103.78%
Ashtabula	200	26.2	188	25.5	106.38%	102.75%
Athens	102	17.7	107	17.8	95.33%	99.44%
Auglaize	69	21.3	59	16.2	116.95%	131.48%
Belmont	79	16.5	77	17.3	102.60%	95.38%
Brown	91	34.0	85	26.8	107.06%	126.87%
Butler	544	24.6	528	20.7	103.03%	118.84%
Carroll	40	20.2	40	19.6	100.00%	103.06%
Champaign	73	27.7	71	25.3	102.82%	109.49%
Clark	316	29.2	334	32.5	94.61%	89.85%
Clermont	299	26.0	278	21.3	107.55%	122.07%
Clinton	77	28.8	85	27.8	90.59%	103.60%
Columbiana	177	22.4	145	18.9	122.07%	118.52%
Coshocton	60	23.9	69	25.5	86.96%	93.73%
Crawford	104	30.2	94	28.4	110.64%	106.34%
Cuyahoga	2471	28.0	2329	25.2	106.10%	111.11%
Darke	104	25.5	65	17	160.00%	150.00%
Defiance	80	25.6	75	24.9	106.67%	102.81%
Delaware	82	16.1	82	10.5	100.00%	153.33%
Erie	152	27.9	132	23.9	115.15%	116.74%
Fairfield	192	25.5	175	19.8	109.71%	128.79%
Fayette	60	28.9	58	30.6	103.45%	94.44%
Franklin	1956	30.8	1943	26.9	100.67%	114.50%
Fulton	68	23.0	53	15.5	128.30%	148.39%
Gallia	65	28.0	69	30.7	94.20%	91.21%
Geauga	45	7.5	38	5.4	118.42%	138.89%
Greene	191	17.1	198	16.4	96.46%	104.27%
Guernsey	98	33.7	72	24.1	136.11%	139.83%
Hamilton	1711	29.6	1650	27	103.70%	109.63%
Hancock	119	24.9	106	20.2	112.26%	123.27%
Hardin	62	24.2	64	25.4	96.88%	95.28%
Harrison	25	20.1	17	16.7	147.06%	120.36%

County	Goal 2000 (set in 1995)		Actual 2000		Percent of Goal To Actual	
	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000	Births	Rate of Births
Henry	41	18.7	33	14.9	124.24%	125.50%
Highland	111	41.4	85	28.1	130.59%	147.33%
Hocking	69	38.0	57	28.1	121.05%	135.23%
Holmes	49	16.7	50	14.3	98.00%	116.78%
Huron	122	27.4	113	25.7	107.96%	106.61%
Jackson	80	34.2	79	33.3	101.27%	102.70%
Jefferson	117	20.3	98	20.8	119.39%	97.60%
Knox	78	21.4	84	19.4	92.86%	110.31%
Lake	197	13.6	178	11.9	110.67%	114.29%
Lawrence	126	26.3	129	29.4	97.67%	89.46%
Licking	256	27.6	243	22.3	105.35%	123.77%
Logan	95	30.0	80	23.8	118.75%	126.05%
Lorain	599	28.6	507	25.1	118.15%	113.94%
Lucas	990	29.9	882	26.8	112.24%	111.57%
Madison	58	23.1	69	25.6	84.06%	90.23%
Mahoning	514	28.4	417	24.3	123.26%	116.87%
Marion	163	36.0	134	29.9	121.64%	120.40%
Medina	129	13.7	108	9.8	119.44%	139.80%
Meigs	33	19.0	53	32.1	62.26%	59.19%
Mercer	43	14.2	52	16.1	82.69%	88.20%
Miami	153	22.3	180	25.4	85.00%	87.80%
Monroe	21	18.1	18	16.9	116.67%	107.10%
Montgomery	1007	26.8	1072	28.1	93.94%	95.37%
Morgan	29	25.8	28	25.2	103.57%	102.38%
Morrow	60	26.5	56	23.6	107.14%	112.29%
Muskingum	218	36.3	187	29.3	116.58%	123.89%
Noble	24	27.2	22	23.1	109.09%	117.75%
Ottawa	55	20.0	45	16.2	122.22%	123.46%
Paulding	40	24.2	37	23.6	108.11%	102.54%
Perry	90	36.7	86	34	104.65%	107.94%
Pickaway	98	30.5	90	27.2	108.89%	112.13%
Pike	78	41.2	74	34.7	105.41%	118.73%
Portage	176	14.8	155	12.7	113.55%	116.54%
Preble	63	20.5	51	16.9	123.53%	121.30%
Putnam	41	14.9	41	13.9	100.00%	107.19%

County	Goal 2000 (set in 1995)		Actual 2000		Percent of Goal To Actual	
	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000	Births 2000	Rate of Births 2000	Births	Rate of Births
Richland	287	32.1	249	28.5	109.96%	109.93%
Ross	180	37.0	147	31.4	120.00%	119.74%
Sandusky	125	27.1	121	27	103.31%	100.37%
Scioto	204	33.3	216	39.7	94.44%	83.88%
Seneca	112	23.1	98	21.6	114.29%	106.94%
Shelby	84	24.3	104	29.3	80.77%	82.94%
Stark	636	25.2	563	21.5	112.97%	117.21%
Summit	838	24.8	748	20.7	112.03%	119.81%
Trumbull	379	24.1	361	23.5	104.99%	102.55%
Tuscarawas	160	26.8	138	21.5	115.94%	124.65%
Union	62	27.2	59	20.8	105.08%	130.77%
Van Wert	57	26.00	41	18.7	139.02%	139.04%
Vinton	36	39.5	26	28.9	138.46%	136.68%
Warren	153	19.7	155	14.4	98.71%	136.81%
Washington	98	21.2	90	20.8	108.89%	101.92%
Wayne	127	16.2	125	14.5	101.60%	111.72%
Williams	67	25.0	78	27.5	85.90%	90.91%
Wood	149	14.8	144	13.6	103.47%	108.82%
Wyandot	42	25.2	31	18.0	135.48%	140.00%

\* The Rate of Births is the number of live births per 1,000 females ages 10-19.

**TEEN BIRTHS: TRENDS**  
(Females ages 10-19)

County	Actual 1995		Actual 2000				Projected 2005	
	Births 1995 (A)	Rate of Births 1995 * (B)	Births 2000 (C)	Percent Change from 1995 ** (D)	Rate of Births 2000 * (E)	Percent Change from 1995 *** (F)	Births 2005 Projected Decline of 10% **** (G)	Rate of Births 2005 ***** (H)
Ohio	20,988	27.5	18,761	-10.61%	23.3	-15.27%	16,885	21.0
Adams	78	37.3	71	-8.97%	34.8	-6.70%	64	31.3
Allen	282	34.8	243	-13.83%	31.1	-10.63%	219	28.0
Ashland	75	20.2	74	-1.33%	18.5	-8.42%	67	16.7
Ashtabula	210	28.0	188	-10.48%	25.5	-8.93%	169	23.0
Athens	107	18.6	107	0.00%	17.8	-4.30%	96	16.0
Auglaize	73	22.4	59	-19.18%	16.2	-27.68%	53	14.6
Belmont	83	17.4	77	-7.23%	17.3	-0.57%	69	15.6
Brown	96	35.8	85	-11.46%	26.8	-25.14%	77	24.1
Butler	573	25.9	528	-7.85%	20.7	-20.08%	475	18.6
Carroll	42	21.3	40	-4.76%	19.6	-7.98%	36	17.6
Champaign	77	29.2	71	-7.79%	25.3	-13.36%	64	22.8
Clark	333	30.8	334	0.30%	32.5	5.52%	301	29.3
Clermont	315	27.4	278	-11.75%	21.3	-22.26%	250	19.2
Clinton	81	30.3	85	4.94%	27.8	-8.25%	77	25.0
Columbiana	186	23.5	145	-22.04%	18.9	-19.57%	131	17.0
Coshocton	63	25.2	69	9.52%	25.5	1.19%	62	23.0
Crawford	109	31.8	94	-13.76%	28.4	-10.69%	85	25.6
Cuyahoga	2,601	29.4	2,329	-10.46%	25.2	-14.29%	2,096	22.7
Darke	109	26.8	65	-40.37%	17	-36.57%	59	15.3
Defiance	84	26.9	75	-10.71%	24.9	-7.43%	68	22.4
Delaware	86	16.9	82	-4.65%	10.5	-37.87%	74	9.5
Erie	160	29.3	132	-17.50%	23.9	-18.43%	119	21.5
Fairfield	202	26.8	175	-13.37%	19.8	-26.12%	158	17.8
Fayette	63	30.4	58	-7.94%	30.6	0.66%	52	27.5
Franklin	2,059	32.5	1,943	-5.63%	26.9	-17.23%	1,749	24.2
Fulton	72	24.2	53	-26.39%	15.5	-35.95%	48	14.0
Gallia	68	29.4	69	1.47%	30.7	4.42%	62	27.6
Geauga	47	7.9	38	-19.15%	5.4	-31.65%	34	4.9
Greene	201	18.0	198	-1.49%	16.4	-8.89%	178	14.8
Guernsey	103	35.5	72	-30.10%	24.1	-32.11%	65	21.7

County	Actual 1995		Actual 2000				Projected 2005	
	Births 1995  (A)	Rate of Births 1995 *  (B)	Births 2000  (C)	Percent Change from 1995 **  (D)	Rate of Births 2000 *  (E)	Percent Change from 1995 ***  (F)	Births 2005 Projected Decline of 10% ****  (G)	Rate of Births 2005 *****  (H)
Hamilton	1,801	31.1	1,650	-8.38%	27	-13.18%	1,485	24.3
Hancock	125	26.2	106	-15.20%	20.2	-22.90%	95	18.2
Hardin	65	25.4	64	-1.54%	25.4	0.00%	58	22.9
Harrison	26	21.1	17	-34.62%	16.7	-20.85%	15	15.0
Henry	43	19.7	33	-23.26%	14.9	-24.37%	30	13.4
Highland	117	43.6	85	-27.35%	28.1	-35.55%	77	25.3
Hocking	73	40.0	57	-21.92%	28.1	-29.75%	51	25.3
Holmes	52	17.6	50	-3.85%	14.3	-18.75%	45	12.9
Huron	128	28.9	113	-11.72%	25.7	-11.07%	102	23.1
Jackson	84	36.0	79	-5.95%	33.3	-7.50%	71	30.0
Jefferson	123	21.4	98	-20.33%	20.8	-2.80%	88	18.7
Knox	82	22.5	84	2.44%	19.4	-13.78%	76	17.5
Lake	207	14.4	178	-14.01%	11.9	-17.36%	160	10.7
Lawrence	133	27.7	129	-3.01%	29.4	6.14%	116	26.5
Licking	269	29.0	243	-9.67%	22.3	-23.10%	219	20.1
Logan	100	31.5	80	-20.00%	23.8	-24.44%	72	21.4
Lorain	631	30.1	507	-19.65%	25.1	-16.61%	456	22.6
Lucas	1,042	31.4	882	-15.36%	26.8	-14.65%	794	24.1
Madison	61	24.3	69	13.11%	25.6	5.35%	62	23.0
Mahoning	541	29.9	417	-22.92%	24.3	-18.73%	375	21.9
Marion	172	37.9	134	-22.09%	29.9	-21.11%	121	26.9
Medina	136	14.4	108	-20.59%	9.8	-31.94%	97	8.8
Meigs	35	20.0	53	51.43%	32.1	60.50%	48	28.9
Mercer	45	14.9	52	15.56%	16.1	8.05%	47	14.5
Miami	161	23.5	180	11.80%	25.4	8.09%	162	22.9
Monroe	22	19.1	18	-18.18%	16.9	-11.52%	16	15.2
Montgomery	1,060	28.2	1,072	1.13%	28.1	-0.35%	965	25.3
Morgan	30	27.1	28	-6.67%	25.2	-7.01%	25	22.7
Morrow	63	27.9	56	-11.11%	23.6	-15.41%	50	21.2
Muskingum	229	38.2	187	-18.34%	29.3	-23.30%	168	26.4
Noble	25	28.6	22	-12.00%	23.1	-19.23%	20	20.8
Ottawa	58	21.0	45	-22.41%	16.2	-22.86%	41	14.6

County	Actual 1995		Actual 2000				Projected 2005	
	Births 1995 (A)	Rate of Births 1995 * (B)	Births 2000 (C)	Percent Change from 1995 ** (D)	Rate of Births 2000 * (E)	Percent Change from 1995 *** (F)	Births 2005 Projected Decline of 10% **** (G)	Rate of Births 2005 ***** (H)
Paulding	42	25.5	37	-11.90%	23.6	-7.45%	33	21.2
Perry	95	38.6	86	-9.47%	34	-11.92%	77	30.6
Pickaway	103	32.1	90	-12.62%	27.2	-15.26%	81	24.5
Pike	82	43.3	74	-9.76%	34.7	-19.86%	67	31.2
Portage	185	15.5	155	-16.22%	12.7	-18.06%	140	11.4
Preble	66	21.6	51	-22.73%	16.9	-21.76%	46	15.2
Putnam	43	15.7	41	-4.65%	13.9	-11.47%	37	12.5
Richland	302	33.8	249	-17.55%	28.5	-15.68%	224	25.7
Ross	189	39.0	147	-22.22%	31.4	-19.49%	132	28.3
Sandusky	132	28.5	121	-8.33%	27	-5.26%	109	24.3
Scioto	215	35.1	216	0.47%	39.7	13.11%	194	35.7
Seneca	118	24.3	98	-16.95%	21.6	-11.11%	88	19.4
Shelby	88	25.6	104	18.18%	29.3	14.45%	94	26.4
Stark	669	26.5	563	-15.84%	21.5	-18.87%	507	19.4
Summit	882	26.1	748	-15.19%	20.7	-20.69%	673	18.6
Trumbull	399	25.4	361	-9.52%	23.5	-7.48%	325	21.2
Tuscarawas	168	28.3	138	-17.86%	21.5	-24.03%	124	19.4
Union	65	28.7	59	-9.23%	20.8	-27.53%	53	18.7
Van Wert	60	27.4	41	-31.67%	18.7	-31.75%	37	16.8
Vinton	38	41.6	26	-31.58%	28.9	-30.53%	23	26.0
Warren	161	20.7	155	-3.73%	14.4	-30.43%	140	13.0
Washington	103	22.3	90	-12.62%	20.8	-6.73%	81	18.7
Wayne	134	17.1	125	-6.72%	14.5	-15.20%	113	13.1
Williams	71	26.4	78	9.86%	27.5	4.17%	70	24.8
Wood	157	15.6	144	-8.28%	13.6	-12.82%	130	12.2
Wyandot	44	26.6	31	-29.55%	18.0	-32.33%	28	16.2

\* The Rate of Births is the number of live births per 1,000 females ages 10-19.

\*\* Percent change between the number of 1995 births and the number of births in 2000. [Column D = Column (A-C)/A]

\*\*\* Percent change between the birth rate in 1995 and the birth rate in 2000. [Column F = Column (B-E)/B]

\*\*\*\* Projected reduction of 10% from year 2000. [Column G = Column C - (C x .10)]

\*\*\*\*\* The Rate of Births 2005 represents a 10% reduction from year 2000. [Column H = Column E - (E x .10)]

[The source for numbers of Live Births and Birth Rates: Ohio Department of Health, Center for Public Health Data and Statistics Report, "Estimated Teenage Pregnancies, Live Births, Induced Abortions, and Estimated Fetal Losses: Number and Rates by Age of Woman and County of Residence, by Year."]