

Guernsey County Department of Job and Family Services

OWF TIME LIMIT EXEMPTION CRITERIA

An OWF Family who has reached the OWF 36 month time limit will be exempt from closure if one of the following criteria is met by the adult, or in the case of a two-parent Assistance Group, both adults must meet the following criteria.

Revised 2/20/09

1. Individual suffers from a documented physical or mental impairment which prevents him/her from gaining basic employment in a national economy. The individual must be keeping treatment appointments and complying with treatment recommendations. Physician statements will be required. Individuals will be required to complete a work assignment (as gainful employment is the goal of the OWF cash assistance program).
2. SSI application is currently pending for the first submittal or first appeal on the original submittal when the OWF 36 month time limit is reached. SSI applicant must apply for DDU County Medical Services and provide them with all requested medical information. Applicant's eligibility will terminate once the SSI case has reached the Appeals Council decision.
3. Child under 6 weeks of age when the OWF 36 month time limit is reached. The OWF time limit exemption will cease the month after the child reaches six weeks of age.
4. Active CSB case with a reunification plan. Reunification plan must be in effect at the time the OWF 36 month time limit is reached. OWF time limit exemption would last no longer than 6 months.
5. Enrolled in work related training which will be completed within next 3 months. The training program must be approved through the Guernsey County Opportunity Center and be with a provider from the State of Ohio Workforce Investment Act Eligible Training Provider List.
6. Adult household member has been a victim of Domestic Violence within the past 3 months as verified by a police report and this condition impacts the ability to be employed. The assistance group must provide verification from law enforcement or court.

- *OWF Time Limit exemption status will ONLY be granted after all other community resources have been explored and exhausted.*
- *Client MUST request OWF time limit exemption status and sign the self-sufficiency contract and meet ALL requirements of the OWF program. Any failure of client to meet these requirements will result in closure of case. The household would have to meet another/different OWF Time Limit exemption to be considered for OWF Time Limit exemption status again.*
- *Household is not eligible for OWF Time Limit exemption status if household has reached their 3rd sanction or had more than one six month job quit penalty within their first 36 months of receiving OWF cash assistance.*
- *The Guernsey CDJFS will insure that client is notified of, and receives all hearing rights.*
- *The county retains the discretion to determine whether assistance group members satisfy a listed OWF time limit hardship exemption provision.*
- *Hardship exemption shall be limited to the maximum number of OWF participants that Guernsey CDJFS can exempt under ORC Section 5107.18(e). When the number of OWF participants claiming a hardship exemption exceeds the maximum allowed these criteria will be revised.*

The above Guernsey County Department of Job and Family Services OWF Time Limit Exemption Criteria Policy was revised February 20, 2009 and will remain in effect until amended in writing by the Director of the GCDJFS.

Cynthia Mazek, Interim Director

Date: February 20, 2009