



Department of
Job and Family Services

Ted Strickland, Governor

Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director

Family Stability Letter # 88
OFFICE OF FAMILIES & CHILDREN
July 30, 2009

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Trudie J. Bormann, Deputy Director
Family Stability
Office of Families & Children

SUBJECT: Disability Financial Assistance Program

Amended Substitute House Bill 1 of the 128th General Assembly contains the state fiscal year (SFY) 2010/2011 appropriation for the Disability Financial Assistance (DFA) program. The General Assembly has appropriated \$29,399,013 for this program in SFY 2010 and \$30,759,074 in SFY 2011.

As a result of declining DFA caseloads and cases being processed more quickly through the Disability Determination Unit, we have determined that, at this time, the appropriated amounts are sufficient to sustain the program. However, if approvals increase and/or the funds decrease, we will consider the cost-saving measure of suspending the taking of new applications. Section 5115.03 of the Ohio Revised Code gives the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services the authority to suspend applications.

On a monthly basis, staff within our office review the monthly DFA recipient count, the cases pending a disability determination with the Disability Determination Unit, and the balance of DFA funds available through the end of the state fiscal year. If it appears that the projected balance may not cover the remaining months of the state fiscal year, we will explore the suspension of applications. If we decide to suspend applications, we will notify the county departments of job and family services by issuing an administrative order from the Director. The administrative order would be issued at least 45 days prior to the suspension. All applications that are received prior to the effective date of the suspension would be processed.

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We are currently working with CRIS-E to ensure that programming is in place if we need to suspend applications in the future. We also have created a new reason code that would pre-populate on the AEWAA (assistance group authorization) screen to deny any applications that would be submitted on or after the effective date of the suspension. CRIS-E instructions would be issued via a View Flash Bulletin.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please direct them to the TANF-FSTA mailbox or call 1-866-886-3537 (Option 6).

c: Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director
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