

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: 8/17/2023
TIME: 10 am
LOCATION: Teleconference and Room 3110B, Rhodes State Office Tower
30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

This meeting will be held by teleconference and in person. If you would like to submit oral testimony, please attend the meeting site location or call in at the date and time to 1-614-721-2972. Then enter the meeting I.D # which is 940 119 171#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to: rules@jfs.ohio.gov

Pursuant to sections 5116.06, 5107.05, 5107.60, 5101.80, and Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services gives notice of the department's intent to consider the adoption, amendment, or rescission of the rule or rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon.

Rule 5101:1-1-01, entitled Temporary Assistance for Needy families, is being proposed for amendment because of Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly removing the requirement that a woman must be in her sixth month of pregnancy to receive Ohio Works First benefits. This rule sets forth the definitions related to the temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program that are contained in federal regulations and set forth in the Revised Code. The changes to the rule are paragraph (Q)(1) has been updated to remove the requirement that the married minor has to be at least six months pregnant in order to be considered a minor head of household. This paragraph has been updated to reflect that a minor head of household is married, pregnant and a member of an assistance group that does not include an adult.

Rule 5101:1-3-01, entitled Ohio Works First: Federal Work Participation Rates, is being proposed for amendment because of Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly removing the requirement that a woman must be in her sixth month of pregnancy to receive Ohio Works First benefits. The sets forth the federal work participation requirements and activities for eligible individuals. The changes to the rule are paragraph (D)(4) has been updated to remove the requirement that a pregnant woman must be in her sixth month of pregnancy. This paragraph has been updated to state an assistance group containing only a pregnant woman can be an all-family assistance group; and paragraph (H)(3) has been updated to correct rule citations to (H)(1)(a) or (H)(1)(b).

Rule 5101:1-3-12.3, entitled Work Experience Program, is being proposed for amendment, because of Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly clarifying a work eligible individual is to be placed in and participating in a work experience activity in order for a private or government entity to be required to pay premiums to the bureau of workers' compensation. This rule sets forth the work experience program (WEP) for Ohio Works First participants. The changes to the rule are paragraph (D)(4) was updated to state that a private or government entity that a work eligible individual is placed in and participates in WEP activities

shall pay premiums to the bureau of workers' compensation on account of the work eligible individual unless a county agency pays the premiums for the entity.

Rule 5101:1-3-12.6, entitled Community Service, is being proposed for amendment because Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly clarifying a work eligible individual is to be placed in and participating in a work experience activity in order for a private or government entity to be required to pay premiums to the bureau of workers' compensation.. This rule describes the community service program for Ohio Works First participants. The changes to the rule are paragraph (F) has been updated to state a private or government entity that a work eligible individual is placed in and participates in community service activities shall pay premiums to the bureau of workers' compensation on account of the work eligible individual unless a county agency pays the premiums for the entity; and minor language changes were made to improve clarity.

Rule 5101:1-23-40, entitled Ohio Works First: Payments, is being proposed for amendment, because of Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly removing the requirement that a woman must be in her sixth month of pregnancy to receive Ohio Works First benefits. This rule sets forth payments for the Ohio Works First program. The changes to the rule are paragraph (B)(4)(a)(i) has been updated to remove the requirement that a woman is at least in her sixth month of pregnancy and has been updated to state that pregnancy is met when it is medically verified that the woman is pregnant; and minor language changes were made to improve clarity.

Rule 5101:1-2-50, entitled Ohio Works Now, is being proposed for amendment because of Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly removing the requirement that a woman must be in her sixth month of pregnancy to receive Ohio Works First benefits . This rule sets forth the Ohio Works Now eligibility requirements, the methods of issuance, the amount and duration determination process and the county agency's responsibility in the case of erroneous payments or fraud. The changes to the rule are the word "statewide automated eligibility system" was replaced with "Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system"; and paragraph (A)(2)(a) has been updated to remove the requirement that a woman is at least in her sixth month of pregnancy and has been updated to state a pregnant woman with no other children.

A copy of the proposed rule(s) is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rule(s) at the address listed below. The rule(s) is also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rule(s) will be held at the date, time, and location listed at the top of this notice. Either written or oral testimony will be taken at the public hearing. Additionally, written comments submitted or postmarked no later than the date of the public hearing will be treated as testimony.

Requests for a copy of the proposed rule(s) or comments on the rule(s) should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal and Acquisition Services, 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 752-8298, or by e-mail at rules@jfs.ohio.gov.