

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: March 14, 2024
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Teleconference and Room 3110b, Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, 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 758 059 153#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to: rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

Pursuant to sections 5101.11 and 5101.141 and Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code, the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services gives notice of the department's intent to consider the amendment and rescission of the rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon. These rules are being filed as part of the five-year rule review process.

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 106.03, each state agency is required to review its rules a minimum of once every five years. The intent of the law is to ensure that rules are clearly written and that program requirements are accurate, up-to-date and clearly expressed. To the extent possible, unnecessary paperwork will be eliminated, and local agencies will be given increased flexibility. The purpose of a rule review is to determine whether a rule should be continued without amendment, be amended, or be rescinded, taking into consideration each rule's scope and purpose.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 5101:2-49-02 entitled "**Title IV-E adoption assistance (AA) eligibility criteria for children over age two**" sets forth the eligibility criteria for the adoption assistance program for children aged two and older. The title to the rule has been updated to provide clarity for eligibility criteria. The non applicable child requirement for children under age two was stricken in paragraph (A)(1). The judicial determination of best interest requirement in paragraph (B)(1)(a) must be met in the initial court order and not at any time prior to finalization. Restrictive language was removed throughout the rule, grammatical edits were made, and the revision dates were struck. This rule will be effective July 1, 2024.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 5101:2-49-02.1 entitled "**Title IV-E adoption assistance (AA) eligibility criteria for children under age two.**" The non applicable child requirements for children under age two will end June 30, 2024. This rule is being rescinded effective July 1, 2024.

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.