

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES**

DATE: October 25, 2022

TIME: 10:00AM

LOCATION: Teleconference

Due to COVID-19 precautions this meeting will be held by teleconference. If you would like to submit oral testimony, please call in at the above date and time to 1-614-721-2972. Then enter the meeting I.D. which is 885 920 226#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

Pursuant to sections 5104.30, 5104.34, 5104.38 and 5104.39, and Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) gives notice of the department's intent to consider amendment of the rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon. These rules are being amended due to the transition of publicly funded child care's (PFCC) benefit processing activities from the Child Care Information Data System (CCIDS) into the Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system. In early 2022, five pilot counties initiated the statewide conversion's phased-in approach by utilizing the Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system to process initial child care eligibility. By mid-2022, all counties will convert all PFCC eligibility activities into the Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system, making it the sole eligibility processing system for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Cash Assistance, Medical Assistance, or Child Care Assistance programs.

Proposed Amended Rules:

5101:2-16-01 "Definitions for eligibility for publicly funded child care benefits"

- Correct the paragraph reference in (N)(4).
- Define "statewide automated eligibility system" as the centralized automated system that supports county agencies.

5101:2-16-02 "Application and qualification process for receipt of publicly funded child care benefits"

- Replace "redetermination" with "recertification".
- Remove references to "child care information data system" and "CCIDS".
- Replace the JFS 01138 "Application for Child Care Benefits" with the JFS 07200 "Application for SNAP, Cash Assistance, Medical Assistance, or Child Care Assistance."
- Clarify that all counties will accept the JFS 07200 "Application for SNAP, Cash Assistance, Medical Assistance, or Child Care Assistance", or the JFS 01121 "Early

Childhood Education Eligibility Screening Tool" or the JFS 01122 "Publicly Funded Child Care Supplemental Application" as applications for initial PFCC eligibility.

- Add the definition of a telephonic signature.
- Clarify what is considered a valid PFCC application signature.
- Clarify that a minor parent can be a primary applicant if they've obtained their high school diploma or high school equivalency.
- Clarify that caretakers who are minor parents may qualify for child care eligibility if they received a high school diploma or a high school equivalence diploma or are participating in the learning, earning, and parenting (LEAP) program.
- Clarify that a minor parent can be a primary applicant if they've obtained their high school diploma or high school equivalency or is participating in LEAP.
- Replace the JFS 01124 "Re-determination Application from Child Care Benefits" with the JFS 07204 "Request to Reapply for Cash Assistance, SNAP and/or Child Care."
- Clarify that current child care recipients requesting to apply for SNAP and/or cash benefits at the time of their child care recertification are to file a JFS 07200 for SNAP and/or cash benefits.
- Clarify that all counties will accept the JFS 07204 "Request to Reapply for Cash Assistance, SNAP and/or Child Care" as an application to recertify PFCC eligibility during an annual review.
- Clarify that before the end of the eligibility period, the caretaker is required to verify and/or update the information on the JFS 07204, submit proof of current household income and reported changes and sign and return the JFS 07204 with any necessary documentation to the county.
- Update paragraph reference in (N)(1)(c).
- Replace language referring to termination notice issuance at the end of a certification period with language that reflects the Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system's automated expiration notice and discontinuance processes.
- Clarify that all PFCC joint applications are to be processed in accordance with Chapter 5104. of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 5101:2-16 of the OAC.

Appendix A to rule 5101:2-16-02 is being revised to include electronic education as a qualified basic education activity.

Appendix B to rule 5101:2-16-02 is being revised to add an official document of live birth, the State Online Query (SOLQ), and citizenship verifications obtained by other Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) programs for as acceptable verifications of a child's citizenship.

5101:2-16-05 "Copayment for publicly funded child care benefits" is being amended to replace "redetermination" with "recertification".

5101:2-16-08 "County agency responsibilities for the administration and determination of eligibility for publicly funded child care"

- Replace "redetermination" with "recertification" to reflect language used in OB.
- Remove references to "child care information data system" and "CCIDS" for child care's conversion to OB for all eligibility processing.
- Remove "OB" and replaced with "Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system".
- Remove references for counties using OB due to all counties' utilization of the statewide automated eligibility system.
- Remove the county's responsibility for assigning child care eligibility pay codes due to Ohio benefits integrated eligibility system's automated pay code assignment functionality.
- Clarify that counties are to provide the caretaker a JFS 07204 "Request to Reapply for Cash Assistance, SNAP and/or Child Care" at recertification.
- Remove references to the JFS 01124 "Re-Determination Application for Child Care Benefits" due to child care being included on the JFS 07204 "Request to Reapply for Cash Assistance, SNAP and/or Child Care."
- Clarify the county is to propose the expiration of benefits on or after the first day of the next-to-last month of eligibility, but before the first day of the last month of eligibility and that benefits will expire if the JFS 07204, household income and any other required documentation are not received prior to the end of the current eligibility period.
- Fixes spelling error in (I)(2).
- Clarify that all PFCC joint applications are to be processed in accordance with Chapter 5104. of the ORC and Chapter 5101:2-16 of the OAC.

5101:2-16-09 "Provider Responsibilities for Publicly Funded Child Care" is being amended to remove guidance for requesting payment for services provided prior to December 16, 2018.

5101:2-16-10 "Payment rates and procedures for providers of publicly funded child care services" is being amended to clarify that in-home aides are not to claim pandemic days.

A copy of the proposed rules is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rules at the address listed below. These rules are also available on the internet at <http://www.registrofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rules 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 rules or comments on the rules 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.