## Rule Summary and Fiscal Analysis Part A - General Questions

**Rule Number:** 5101:2-16-30

Rule Type: Amendment

Rule Title/Tagline: Eligibility requirements for receipt of publicly funded child care

benefits.

**Agency Name:** Department of Job and Family Services

**Division:** Division of Social Services

Address: OFC- 4200 E. 5th Ave., 2nd fl. J6-06 P.O. Box 183204 Columbus OH

43218-3204

**Contact:** Michael Lynch

Email: Michael.Lynch@jfs.ohio.gov Phone: 614-466-4605

#### I. Rule Summary

- 1. Is this a five year rule review? No
  - A. What is the rule's five year review date? 3/1/2019
- 2. Is this rule the result of recent legislation? No
- 3. What statute is this rule being promulgated under? 119.03
- 4. What statute(s) grant rule writing authority? 5104.38, 5104.34
- 5. What statute(s) does the rule implement or amplify? 5104.01, 5104.30, 5104.34, 5104.382, 5104.38, 5104.42
- 6. What are the reasons for proposing the rule?

This rule is being proposed for amendment to update child care policy.

7. Summarize the rule's content, and if this is an amended rule, also summarize the rule's changes.

This rule sets forth the eligibility requirements for receipt of publicly funded child care benefits, and is being amended to add new qualifying job training and post-secondary

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education activities; to clarify protective child care, homeless child care, transitional child care and post-secondary activities; to update references to specific paragraphs within the rule and to update the revision dates of the publicly funded child care application forms.

- 8. Does the rule incorporate material by reference? Yes
- 9. If the rule incorporates material by reference and the agency claims the material is exempt pursuant to R.C. 121.71 to 121.76, please explain the basis for the exemption and how an individual can find the referenced material.

This rule incorporates one or more dated references to the U.S. Code. This question is not applicable to any dated incorporation by reference to the U.S. Code because such reference is exempt from compliance with RC 121.71 to 121.74 in accordance with RC 121.75(A).

This rule incorporates one or more dated references to a federal act or acts. This question is not applicable to any dated incorporation by reference to a federal act because such reference is exempt from compliance with RC 121.71 to 121.74 in accordance with RC 121.75(C).

This rule incorporates one or more references to the Ohio Revised Code. This question is not applicable to any incorporation by reference to the Ohio Revised Code because such reference is exempt from compliance with RC 121.71 to 121.74 pursuant to RC 121.76(A)(1).

This rule incorporates one or more references to another rule or rules of the Ohio Administrative Code. This question is not applicable to any incorporation by reference to another OAC rule because such reference is exempt from compliance with RC 121.71 to 121.74 pursuant to RC 121.76(A)(3).

This rule incorporates one or more dated references to an ODJFS form or forms. Each cited ODJFS form is dated and is generally available to persons affected by this rule via the inner-web at http://innerapp.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inner.asp or on the inter-net at http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inter.asp in accordance with RC 121.75(E).

10. If revising or re-filing the rule, please indicate the changes made in the revised or re-filed version of the rule.

Not Applicable

#### II. Fiscal Analysis

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11. As a result of this proposed rule, please estimate the increase / decrease in revenues or expenditures affecting this agency, or the state generally, in the current biennium or future years. If the proposed rule is likely to have a different fiscal effect in future years, please describe the expected difference and operation.

This will have no impact on revenues or expenditures.

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There is no increase in system expenditures in this biennium.

12. What are the estimated costs of compliance for all persons and/or organizations directly affected by the rule?

There are no anticipated costs to comply with the proposed rule.

- 13. Does the rule increase local government costs? (If yes, you must complete an RSFA Part B). No
- 14. Does the rule regulate environmental protection? (If yes, you must complete an RSFA Part C). No

#### III. Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Questions

- 15. Was this rule filed with the Common Sense Initiative Office? No
- 16. Does this rule have an adverse impact on business? No
  - A. Does this rule require a license, permit, or any other prior authorization to engage in or operate a line of business? No
  - B. Does this rule impose a criminal penalty, a civil penalty, or another sanction, or create a cause of action, for failure to comply with its terms? No
  - C. Does this rule require specific expenditures or the report of information as a condition of compliance? No

APPLICATION FOR CHILD CARE BENEFITS ATE: 03/07/2018 10:58 AM

How do I apply for assistance?

**ACTION:** Original

- Complete this application, answering as many questions as you can.
- Be sure to sign the application.
- You will see ATTACH PROOF next to questions requiring verification. (See "What verifications do I need?" for further details).
- A verification checklist will be mailed to you within 10 days of the date the county agency receives your application if more information is needed to make a decision on your case.
- You will have 30 days from the date the county agency receives your application to provide all needed information.
- Turn in the application and verifications to your local county agency. Office hours may vary by county. Applications and verifications may also be mailed, faxed, or sent via e-mail.

#### What verifications do I need?

- **Proof of Income:** Verification of income includes but is not limited to paystubs, tax records, award letters, child support orders, etc.
- Proof of any child support paid.
- Proof of citizenship or qualified alien status for children in need of care: If the county agency verifies that you have already provided proof of citizenship to qualify for OWF, you will not have to provide it a second time.
- Proof of a qualifying activity for all caretakers in the household: Verification of a qualifying activity includes but is not limited to an official school schedule, a work schedule, self-sufficiency contract, etc.
- Provide the name and address of an eligible child care provider for each child in need of care. (See below for tips on choosing a provider).

#### What is Step Up To Quality?

Step Up To Quality helps families identify child care programs that go beyond the minimum standards of licensing. Star rated programs demonstrate higher levels of quality in a variety of ways. For more information, visit the ODJFS child care website at http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/index.stm and click on "Step Up To Quality."

#### How do I choose a **Child Care** Provider?

- Parents may select any program approved to offer publicly funded child care. These programs include centers, family child care homes and inhome aides located throughout the state of Ohio.
- If you would like assistance with selecting a provider, you may contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency. Visit http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/families.stm for contact information.
- You may use our Child Care Directory to look for programs that fit your child care needs at http://childcaresearch.ohio.gov. The directory allows you to search by location, type of program, services offered and days and hours of operation. Information is provided about each program including Step Up To Quality rating, any additional accreditation or affiliation, licensing inspections and substantiated complaints.

#### Continued on next page

#### How do I get help with completing this application?

- If English is not your primary language: The county agency will provide someone who can help you understand the questions on this application.
- If you have a disability, are hearing-impaired or visually-impaired: The county agency will help you complete this application.

# What will I need to do after I turn in my application?

- If any of the information changes after you turn in this application, you must provide updates to the county agency.
- Watch for mail from your county agency. Any mail regarding your child care eligibility will include important information and may require actions from you.
- Be sure to turn in any required information by the date it is due. Failure to do so may result in a denial of your application.
- If your application is denied, you may be responsible for payments to any child care provider whose services have been used since the submission of the application.

# When will my eligibility begin?

- Your eligibility for this program is determined within 30 days from the date the signed and dated application is received by the county agency.
- If this application is approved and you are eligible for child care benefits, the county agency may authorize payment for child care services from the date the county agency received this application.

# What if my child has a disability or I suspect my child may be development ally delayed?

- To learn more about Medicaid health screenings and early intervention services for your child, please visit the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services child care website at <a href="http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm">http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm</a> and click on "Families."
- Your child care provider may qualify for additional assistance if they
  must make special adaptations for your child. Your provider may
  contact your county agency for more information.

# How do I make a complaint about a Provider?

If you would like to make a complaint about a suspected violation of licensing rules, you may call the Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

### Ohio Department of Job and Family Services APPLICATION FOR CHILD CARE BENEFITS

1. Voter registration application attached- Assistance Available										
If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?										
☐ YES, I want to register to vote. ☐ NO, I do not want to register to vote.										
If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this time.										
2. Tell us about you (the a			to register to vote at tills t	unie.						
First Name	ірріїсаі	MI	Last Name		Date of Birth					
riistivame		IVII	Last Name		Date of Billi					
Street Address		☐ Check here if you are homeless. (We will still need a								
Mailing Address (if different than stre	et address	s)			mailing address)					
City	County			State	Zip Code					
Home Phone Number	C	Cell Phon	e Number	I	May we send tex					
( )	(	)			your cell phone r ☐ Yes ☐ No					
Work Phone Number ( )	E	Email Add	lress		l les line					
3. Tell us more about you	(the ap	plican	t)							
Are you:			of the following services	?						
☐ Visually Impaired	-		Other:							
☐ Hearing Impaired	☐ Sign	Language	Э							
Marital Status	orced [	☐ Separ	rated Widowed I	Not marrie	d					
Have you, or anyone living with yo	u, ever re	eceived c	ash, child care, food, or n	nedical as	sistance? 🗌 Ye	s 🗌 No				
If yes, who:			Where (City/County/S	State):						
What is your preferred language?	10/	-:								
Spoken	VVI	ritten		-						
Do you and the people in your hon accounts, annuities, stocks, or bo				in cash, cl	hecking, or savin	gs (such as bank				
Are you or anyone in your househ	old in the	military	?	/ Nation	nal Guard/Reserve	es)				
Have you ever been found guilty of fraud? ☐ Yes ☐ No	f child ca	re	Do you currently have a Plan? Yes No	n Ohio Wo	orks First (OWF)	Self-Sufficiency				
If you are a minor, are you current	ly in LEAI	<b>P?</b> \( \text{ Ye}	es 🗌 No							
4. Emergency Contact										
□N/A First Name			MI	Last Nan	ne					
Street Address			I	<u> </u>						
City	County			State	Zip Code					
Home Phone Number		Cell Ph	none Number			May we send				
( )		(	)			text messages to the cell phone				
Work Phone Number ( )		Email A	Address			number?				

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5. Tell us about everyone that lives in your home You must list everyone who lives with you, even if they are not applying. Please be sure to list your name first. Please include all								
household members reg		e member'	s need for c	hild care. I		more space, attach	a separate	piece of paper.
	Social	US			Relation		∐iononio.	
Name	Security Number	Citizen		Date of	to you (spouse,		Hispanic or Latino	Highest Level of
(First. Last)	Optional	Y or N	Gender	Birth	son, etc)	Race	Y or N	Education Completed
(· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					SELF	☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date: Number of College Credit Hours:
						☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		☐ Some High School ☐ HS Diploma/GED ☐ 2 Year Degree ☐ 4 Year Degree ☐ Masters or Above Graduation Date: Number of College Credit Hours:
						☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		☐ Some High School ☐ HS Diploma/GED ☐ 2 Year Degree ☐ 4 Year Degree ☐ Masters or Above Graduation Date: Number of College Credit Hours:
						☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date: Number of College Credit Hours:
						☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		☐ Some High School ☐ HS Diploma/GED ☐ 2 Year Degree ☐ 4 Year Degree ☐ Masters or Above Graduation Date: ☐ Number of College Credit Hours:
						☐ African American ☐ Alaska Native/American Indian ☐ Asian ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		☐ Some High School ☐ HS Diploma/GED ☐ 2 Year Degree ☐ 4 Year Degree ☐ Masters or Above Graduation Date:

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		nt employer. This includes so ogram, you must provide a cu				
Household Member Name and Job Title (if applicable)	Start Date/En Date	Address and Te	Training Site Name lephone Number	Rate of Pay (if applicable)	How often Paid (Weekly, Bi-weekly, etc)	Work or School Schedule (Please check the box next to the days you work or attend school. Then list the hours you work or attend school on the corresponding line, ie 8:30 – 5:30)
		Name				☐ Sun
		Address				│
		Telephone No				☐ Wed ☐ Thurs
		Schooling – Total credit	hours earned:			☐ Fri ☐ Sat ☐ Varies week to week
		Name				
		Address				☐ Sun ☐ Mon ☐ Tues
		Telephone No				☐ Wed ☐ Thurs
		Schooling - Total credit	hours earned:			☐ Fri☐ Sat☐ Varies week to week
		Name				□ Cun
		Address				☐ Sun ☐ Mon ☐ Tues
		Telephone No				☐ Wed ☐ Thurs
		Schooling - Total credit	hours earned:			Fri
7. Tell us about v	our othe	er sources of income.				
Other sources of incor	me refer to efits, retire	all the money that you and t	he people in your home			from child/spousal/medical is, etc. ATTACH PROOF of
Household Member	Name	Type of Income	Amount of Income (before taxes)		<b>Often Recei</b> kly, monthly,	
•	-	r household pay Child or Sort obligation per month?	·	Yes No	CH PROOF (	of this obligation.
-		he child(ren) who ne		uot ATTA		
Child 1						
Child's Name (First, M	liddle, Last	)	Child's Moth	er's Maiden N	Name	
Child's City of Birth		Relationship to Applicant	t Child's Prefe	rred Spoken	Language	
Is this child a United S You must provide verifica		en or a qualified alien?		s juire protective	child care?	☐ Yes ☐ No

If you or the people in your home are working, attending school or participating in a training program, please complete the table below. If

6. Tell us about your qualifying activity

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Do you have concerns about your chil	d's growth and develop	ment?	If yes, is there a case plan?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Yes No Please describe:			Is the child enrolled in Head Start?	☐ Yes ☐ No
			If yes, what is the child's schedule? From	
		<b>.</b>		
Days/Hours care needed		Provider I	Name and Address	
Sun Fromto				
Mon Fromto				
☐ Tues Fromto           ☐ Wed Fromto				
Thurs From to				
Fri From to				
Sat Fromto				
0.11.0				
Child 2 Child's Name (First, Middle, Last)			Child's Mother's Maiden Name	
,			Child o Mother o Malach Hame	
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applic	cant	Child's Preferred Spoken Language	
Is this child a United States citizen or a You must provide verification in order to re		s 🗌 No	Child's Needs Does child require protective child care?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Do you have concerns about your chil	d's growth and develop	ment?	If yes, is there a case plan?	☐ Yes ☐ No
			Is the child enrolled in Head Start?	☐ Yes ☐ No
			If yes, what is the child's schedule? From	m to
Days/Hours care needed		Provider I	Name and Address	
Sun Fromto				
Mon From to				
☐ Tues Fromto				
☐ Wed Fromto				
Thurs Fromto				
☐ Fri         Fromtotototo				
Gat Fromto				
Child 3				
Child's Name (First, Middle, Last)			Child's Mother's Maiden Name	
·				
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applic	cant	Child's Preferred Spoken Language	
Is this child a United States citizen or a You must provide verification in order to re		s 🗌 No	Child's Needs Does child require protective child care?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Do you have concerns about your chil		ment?	- · ·	
☐ Yes ☐ No Please describe:			If yes, is there a case plan?  Is the child enrolled in Head Start?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No
			If yes, what is the child's schedule? From	
Days/Hours that Child Care is Needed	t	Provider I	Name and Address	
☐ Sun Fromto				
☐ Mon Fromto				
☐ Tues Fromtoto				
Wed From to				
☐ Thurs Fromto           ☐ Fri         Fromto				
☐ Sat Fromto				

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Child 4						
Child's Name (First, Middle, Last)			Chil	d's Mother's Maiden Name		
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to applic	cant	Chil	d's preferred spoken language		
Is this child a United States citizen or a You must provide verification in order to rec	qualified alien?	s 🗆 No		d's Needs s child require protective child care?	□ No	
Do you have concerns about your child ☐ Yes ☐ No Please describe:	d's growth and develop	ment?	If ye	s, is there a case plan?	□ No	
			Is the	e child enrolled in Head Start?	□ No	
			If ye	s, what is the child's schedule? From	_ to	
Days/Hours that Child Care is Needed		Provide	r Nan	ne and Address		
Sun       From       to         Mon       From       to         Tues       From       to         Wed       From       to         Thurs       From       to         Fri       From       to         Sat       From       to						
9. Tell us about the school If any child(ren) are attending or will be						
Child's Name	Child Entering Kindergarten	Curi Gra Lev	rent ade	Name and Address of School	Hours of School (ie 8 am – 3 pm)	School Year Start and End Date
	Will the child be entering K this year?					
	☐ Yes ☐ No					
	Kindergarten Schedule	9				
	□АМ □РМ					
	☐ Full Day					
	Will the child be entering K this year?					
	☐ Yes ☐ No					
	Kindergarten Schedule	e				
	□АМ □РМ					
	☐ Full Day					
	Will the child be entering K this year?					
	☐ Yes ☐ No					
	Kindergarten Schedule	e				
	□АМ □РМ					
	☐ Full Day					

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#### 10. Rights and Responsibilities

I understand that this application will be considered without regard to race, color, ancestry, sex, age, handicap, religion or national origin. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the answers on this application are complete and correct. I understand that the law provides penalty of fine or imprisonment, or both, for anyone convicted of accepting assistance for which he or she is not eligible. I state under penalty of perjury that all information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

By signing and submitting the application, I acknowledge and agree that the county agency and ODJFS may share certain details about the status of my application with the child care provider listed in section 8 of this application and any amendment thereto, as well as to any child care provider who I authorize to receive information regarding my application.

My signature below gives my consent to the county agency and ODJFS to make contacts that are necessary to determine my eligibility for assistance and to verify the information I have given in this application. I understand that my signature below gives the county agency permission to access available information in the Support Enforcement Tracking System (SETS) to verify my child / spousal / medical support income. My signature also gives consent to issue a system generated statewide student identifier (SSID) for each child listed in section 8 of this application.

My signature below gives my consent and authorizes the county agency to access CRIS-E or the Ohio Benefits Worker Portal for the purpose of verifying the citizenship status of the children in this case and for verification of the receipt of additional public assistance. I may revoke this authorization at any time by notifying the county agency in writing.

I understand that I will be able to use publicly funded child care benefits only for children who are eligible and only up to the maximum hours authorized by the county agency. To remain eligible for publicly funded child care benefits, the required copayment (if applicable) must be paid by me to the provider. Failure to pay the required copayment may result in termination of publicly funded child care benefits.

I understand that I must report any changes which affect my child care eligibility to the county agency, including changes in family income, hours of employment/training/education, family size and address. I understand that I must report changes within 10 days of the date they occur.

I understand that if I am approved, I will be responsible for accurately recording my child's attendance at the child care program by utilizing an automated attendance tracking system. This includes registering in the system and creating personal identification information that I will use to access the system and to serve as my electronic signature. I understand that my child care provider is not permitted to record my child's attendance on my behalf, and may not have access to my personal identification information. I understand that the attendance tracking system may take my photo or a photo of my designee/sponsor as part of the login and logout process. I understand that I am responsible for approving any changes that my provider makes in the attendance tracking system regarding my child's attendance at the program.

I understand that if my child attends a Step Up To Quality rated program, and if an assessment is completed on my child, the data will be collected and reported to ODJFS.

I have received an explanation regarding the requirements for determining eligibility, the reasons why I may not be eligible, my right to a state hearing, my responsibility for reporting changes to the county agency and the penalty, including possible civil action or criminal prosecution, for the intentional withholding or falsification of information or misuse of child care benefits, including misuse of the automated child care attendance tracking system.

Child care fraud is the willful withholding or falsification of information or misuse of child care services as determined by a court of law. Failure to meet reporting requirements may be considered fraud and may result in the following: 1) repayment of child care benefits which you received but for which you were not eligible; 2) termination or denial of child care benefits; or 3) penalty of fine and/or imprisonment if convicted of fraudulently receiving child care benefits for which you were not eligible.

Signature of Applicant	Signature of person who helped you complete this application (if applicable)	Date

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#### Your civil rights

Federal law and the policies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the local County Department of Job & Family Services (CDJFS) say that we must not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a discrimination complaint, write or call HHS or ODJFS. HHS, and ODJFS are equal opportunity providers and employers.

Write Write **ODJFS** or Region V, Office of Civil Rights Bureau of Civil Rights or Call: Call: 233 N. Michigan Ave, Ste. 240 30 E. Broad St., 37th Floor Chicago, IL 60601 Columbus, OH 43215-3414 (312) 886-2359 (voice) (614) 644-2703 (voice) or 1-866-227-6353 (toll free) (312) 353-5693 (TDD) (614) 995-9961 (TTY) or 1-866-221-6700 (toll free TTY) (312) 886-1807 (fax) (614) 752-6381 (fax)

#### **EXPLANATION OF STATE HEARING PROCEDURES**

#### What is a state hearing?

If you think there has been a mistake or delay on your child care case, you may ask for a hearing by either contacting the local county department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) or the state department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). A state hearing is a meeting with you, someone from the CDJFS and a hearing officer from ODJFS. The person from the CDJFS will explain the action it has taken or wants to take on your case. Then you will have a chance to tell why you think it is wrong. The hearing officer will listen to you and to the CDJFS and may ask questions to help bring out all the facts. The hearing officer will review the facts presented and recommend a decision based on whether or not the child care rules were correctly applied in your case.

#### How do I ask for a hearing?

To ask for a hearing, call or write your CDJFS or write to ODJFS, Bureau of State Hearings, P.O. Box 182825, Columbus, Ohio 43218-2825. If you receive a notice denying, reducing or stopping your child care, fill out that form and mail it to the Bureau of State Hearings. You may also fax your hearing request to (614) 728-9574. ODJFS must receive your hearing request within 90 days of the mailing date of the notice of action. If someone else makes a written request for you, it must include a written statement, signed by you, telling us that person is your representative. Only you can make a hearing request by telephone.

#### How do I request a telephone hearing?

If you cannot attend the hearing at the scheduled location because you do not have transportation or child care or you have medical limitations, etc., you can call 1-866-635-3748 and participate by telephone. If you participate by telephone the hearing officer will call you on the day at the scheduled time for your hearing at the telephone number you provide.

#### Will my child care benefits continue?

If you receive a notice that your child care will be reduced, stopped or restricted, the action will not be taken until the hearing is decided if we receive your hearing request within the 15 days of the mailing date on the notice. If your child care benefits have been changed without written notice or if the change was made even though you requested a timely hearing, you can call the Bureau of State Hearings to ask if you should receive continuing benefits. Call 1-866-635-3748 and choose option number 1 from the automated voice menu. If your assistance is continuing and you lose the hearing, you may have to pay back any benefits that you were not eligible to receive.

#### What is a county conference?

An informal meeting with a person from the CDJFS may settle the issue without the need for a state hearing. This is often the quickest way to solve a problem. At this meeting, someone will review your case with you. If a mistake was made, it can be corrected without the need for a state hearing. You can set up a county conference by asking your worker. If you are not satisfied with the results, you can still have a state hearing. You do not have to have a county conference to have a state hearing and asking for a county conference will not delay your state hearing.

#### When will the hearing be held?

The Bureau of State Hearings will send you a notice giving the date, time and place of the hearing. This notice will be sent to you at least 10 days before the hearing. The notice also will tell you what to do if you cannot come to the hearing as scheduled. Hearings are usually held at the CDJFS. If you are unable to go there, the hearing may be held some other place convenient to you and to the other people involved. If you want the hearing held somewhere other than the CDJFS, be sure to state that on your hearing request.

#### Can a hearing be postponed?

If you cannot come to the hearing as scheduled or if you need more time to prepare, you can ask for a postponement. You JFS 01138 (Rev. 05/2018)

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must have a good reason to postpone the hearing.

#### What happens if I do not attend the hearing?

The Bureau of State Hearings will send you a dismissal notice if you do not come to the hearing. If you want to continue with your hearing request, you must contact State Hearings within 10 days and explain why you did not come to the hearing. The hearing authority will decide whether you had a good reason. If you do not call within 10 days and show good cause, the hearing will be dismissed and you will lose the hearing. The CDJFS can then take the action it was planning to take. If you disagree with the dismissal, the dismissal notice will tell you how to ask for an administrative appeal.

#### What happens before the hearing?

You may have someone (lawyer, welfare rights person, friend or relative) go to the hearing to present your case for you. If you are not going to be at the hearing, the person attending for you must bring a written statement from you saying he or she is your representative. If you want legal help at the hearing, you must make arrangements before the hearing. Contact your local Legal Aid program to see if you qualify for free help. If you do not know how to reach your Legal Aid, call 1-800-589-5888 (toll-free). If you want notice of the hearing sent to your lawyer, you must give the lawyer's name and address to the hearing authority. You and your representative have the right to look at your case file and the written rules being applied to your case. You can get a free copy of any case record documents that are related to your hearing request. Any person acting for you must provide a signed statement from you before looking at your case record or getting copies of case record documents. The CDJFS does not have to show you confidential records such as names of people who have given information against you, records of criminal proceedings and certain medical records. Confidential records, which you could not look at or question, cannot be presented at the hearing or be used by the hearing officer in reaching a decision.

#### Can I subpoena information?

You can ask the hearing authority to subpoen documents or witnesses that would not otherwise be available and that are essential to your case. You must request the subpoen at least five calendar days before the date of the hearing and provide the name and the address of the person or document you want subpoenaed.

#### What happens at the hearing?

You may bring witnesses, friends, relatives or your lawyer to help present your case. The hearing officer may limit the number of witnesses allowed in the hearing at any one time if there is not enough room. You and your representative will have the right to look at the evidence used at the hearing, present your side of the case without undue interference, ask questions and bring papers or other evidence to support your case. The hearing will be recorded by the hearing officer so that the facts are taken down correctly. The hearing officer will listen to both sides but will not make a decision at the hearing. Instead, you will receive a written decision in the mail, issued by the hearing authority. After the hearing decision is issued you can get a free copy of the recording by contacting the Bureau of State Hearings.

#### What is a group hearing?

The hearings office may combine several individual hearing requests into a single group hearing, but only if there is no disagreement about the facts of each case and all involve related issues of state or federal law or county policy. The notice to schedule your hearing will tell you if you are scheduled for a group hearing. You and your representative will be allowed to present your own case individually and you will have the same rights at a group hearing as you would at an individual hearing.

#### What happens after the hearing?

You should receive a hearing decision within 90 days of your hearing request. If you disagree with the hearing decision, your written decision will tell you how to ask for an administrative appeal.

#### When will compliance with the hearing decision happen?

The CDJFS must take the action ordered by the decision within 15 days of the date the decision is issued but always within 90 days of your hearing request. Contact the Bureau of State Hearings if you have not promptly received the benefits awarded by the hearing decision.

#### Does another action require another hearing?

If you receive another notice that says the CDJFS wants to change your child care benefits while you are waiting for a hearing or decision, you must ask for another hearing if you disagree with the new action. Remember, the fact that you are waiting for a hearing or decision will not stop another action from being taken on your case. You must ask for another hearing on the new action.

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#### Thio Department of Education

#### ACTION: Original DHOOD EDUCATION ELIGIBILITY SCREENING TOOL 18 10:58 AM

#### How do I apply for **Early Childhood Education Services** (ECE)?

- Complete the screening tool, JFS 01121.
- Submit this form to your provider.
- **Do not** submit the form to the Ohio Department of Education.
- Your provider will let you know if you qualify.

#### How do I apply for **Publicly Funded Child Care?**

- Complete the screening tool, JFS 01121, and the JFS 01122 Publicly Funded Child Care Supplemental Application, answering as many questions as you can. Be sure to sign both forms.
- Submit both the JFS 01121 and JFS 01122 to your local county agency.
- Attach verifications to the JFS 01122 (see verification requirements below).
- A verifications checklist will be mailed to you within 10 days of your application date if more information is needed to make a decision on your case.
- You will have 30 days from the date the county receives your application to provide all needed information.

#### What verifications do I need for publicly funded child care?

- **Proof of income:** Verification of income includes but is not limited to paystubs, tax records, award letters, child support orders, etc.
- Proof of any child support paid.
- Proof of citizenship or qualified alien status for children in need of care: If the county agency verifies that you have already provided proof of citizenship to qualify for OWF, you will not have to provide it a second time.
- Proof of a qualifying activity for all caretakers in the household: Verification of a qualifying activity includes but is not limited to an official school schedule. work schedule, employment verification, self-sufficiency contract, etc.
- Provide the name and address of an eligible child care provider chosen for each child in need of care. (See below for tips on choosing a provider).

#### What is Step Up To Quality?

Step Up To Quality helps families identify child care programs that go beyond the minimum standards of licensing. Star rated programs demonstrate higher levels of quality in a variety of ways. For more information, visit the ODJFS child care website at http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/index.stm and click on "Step Up To Quality."

#### How do I choose a Provider?

ECE: If you would like to view a map of early childhood education providers, visit http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Early-Childhood-Education-Grant.

Publicly Funded Child Care: Parents may select any program approved to offer publicly funded child care. These programs include centers, family child care homes and in-home aides located throughout the state of Ohio.

- If you would like assistance with selecting a publicly funded child care provider, you may contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency. Visit http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/families.stm for contact information.
- You may use the ODJFS Child Care Directory to look for programs that fit your child care needs at http://childcaresearch.ohio.gov/. The directory allows you to search by location, type of program, services offered and days and hours of operation. Information is provided about each program including Step Up To Quality rating, any additional accreditation or affiliation, licensing inspections and substantiated complaints.

#### Continued on next page

JFS 01121 (Rev. 05/2018)

When will my eligibility begin?	ECE: You will be notified by your provider when you may begin care.
	Publicly Funded Child Care: Your eligibility for the publicly funded child care
	program is determined within 30 days from the date the signed application is received by the county. If this application is approved and you are eligible for child
	care benefits, the county agency may authorize payment for child care from the
	date the county received this application.
How do I get help with completing this	ECE: If you need assistance with this application, ask your provider.
application?	Publicly Funded Child Care: If English is not your primary language, the county
	agency will provide someone who can help you understand the questions on this application. If you have a disability, are hearing impaired or visually impaired, the
	county agency will help you complete this application.
What if my child has a disability or I suspect my child may be developmentally	<ul> <li>To learn more about Medicaid health screenings and early intervention services for your child, please visit the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services child care website at <a href="http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm">http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm</a> and click on "Families."</li> </ul>
delayed?	<ul> <li>Publicly Funded Child Care: Your child care provider may qualify for additional assistance if they must make special adaptations for your child. Your provider may contact your county agency for more information.</li> </ul>
How do I make a complaint about a	ECE (ODE): If the program is licensed by ODE, call 614-466-0224.
provider?	<b>Publicly Funded Child Care (ODJFS):</b> If the program is licensed by ODJFS, call 1-877-302-2347, option 4

#### Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Ohio Department of Education

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ELIGIBILITY SCREENING TOOL

Tell us about you (the appl	icant)								
First Name			MI	Last Na	me				
Address							Today's	Doto	
Address							Todays	Date	
	T								
City	State			County			Zip Code	е	
Phone Number	Additional Phone	Number		E-mail A	Address				
( )	( )								
	, ,								
Tall up about the magning in	vous bomo								
Tell us about the people in	your nome								
	Relationship to								
Name	<b>You</b> (spouse, son,				Hispanic or Latino	Spoken	Date of	Gender	U.S. Citizen
(First, Middle, Last)	friend, etc.)		Race		Y or N	Language	Birth	M or F	Y or N
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			ka Native/A						
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		India							
		☐ Asiar☐ Cauc							
			aiian/Pacifi	С					
		Island							
		=	an America						
		∐ Alask India	ka Native/A	American			1	1	
		Asiar							
		☐ Cauc	asian				1	1	
			aiian/Pacifi	С					
		Island	der		]				

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Tell us about your no	eeds for your child	l(ren)	
Child 1	Provider Name and Address	Child's Needs	What hours/days do you need services? (i.e. child care or preschool) Check all that apply
Name		Do you have concerns about your child's growth and/or development?  Yes No  Describe:	☐ Sun ☐ Mon ☐ Tues ☐ Wed ☐ Thurs ☐ Fri ☐ Sat ☐ Mornings ☐ Afternoons ☐ Evenings ☐ Weekends
Child's Mother's Maiden Name			What is the child's home school district?
Child's City of Birth			
Child 2	Provider Name and Address	Child's Needs	What hours/days do you need services? (child care or preschool) Check all that apply
Child's Mother's Maiden Name Child's City of Birth		Do you have concerns about your child's growth and/or development?  Yes No  Describe:	Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat    Mornings  Afternoons  Evenings  Weekends  What is the child's home school district?
Child 3	Provider Name and Address	Child's Needs	What hours/days do you need services? (child care or preschool) Check all that apply
Child's Mother's Maiden Name Child's City of Birth		Do you have concerns about your child's growth and/or development?  Yes No  Describe:	Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat   Mornings Afternoons Evenings   Weekends    What is the child's home school district?

JFS 01121 (Rev. 05/2018) Page 2 of 3

Tell us about your finances									
Will you or the people in your home receive income this month?									
Income refers to all the money that you and the people in your home receive such as earnings from employment, child/spousal/medical support, disability benefits, retirement benefits, Workers' Compensation, Social Security, SSI, Veterans Benefits, etc.									
If yes, please complete	the table below.								
Name	Type of Income	Amount of Income (before taxes)	How Often Received (weekly, bi- weekly, etc)	Date Last Received	Work or School Schedule (please list times)				
Name	Type of income	(before taxes)	Weekly, etc)	Neceiveu	Sun Thurs				
					☐ Sun ☐ Thurs				
					Sun     ☐ Thurs       Mon     ☐ Fri       ☐ Tues     ☐ Sat       ☐ Wed     ☐				
					□ Sun     □ Thurs       □ Mon     □ Fri       □ Tues     □ Sat       □ Wed     □				
					□ Sun     □ Thurs       □ Mon     □ Fri       □ Tues     □ Sat       □ Wed     □				
Do you or anyone in you How Much?	Do you or anyone in your household pay Child or Spousal Support?								
Signature of Applicant					Date				

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## ACTION IS IN FUNDED CHILD CARE SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION 18 10:58 AM

\*This form is valid only for publicly funded child care when attached to a JFS 01121 Early Childhood Education Eligibility Screening Tool

1. Voter registration application at	tached	l - Assistance Available	9		
If you are not registered to vote where you live no	w, would	you like to apply to register to v	ote here tod	lay?	
☐ YES, I want to register to vote.				nt to register to vote.	
		ither box, you will be conside t to register to vote at this time			
		t to register to vote at this time	<b>-</b>		
2. Tell us about you (the applicant)  First Name		Last Name		Date of Birth	
Filst Name	IVII	Last Name		Date of Birth	
Street Address	<u> </u>			Check here if you are homeless (We will still need a	
Mailing Address (if different from street address)				mailing address)	
walling Address (if different from street address)					
City	County		State	Zip Code	
Oily .	County		Olato	2.15 0000	
Home Phone Number	Cell Ph	one Number		May we send text messages to	
( )	(	)		your cell phone number?	
Work Phone Number	E-Mail	Address		☐ Yes ☐ No	
				_	
3. Tell us more about you (the app	licant)				
	of the f	ollowing services?		Social Security Number	
☐ Visually Impaired ☐ Interpreter		Other:		(Optional)	
☐ Hearing Impaired ☐ Sign Language	Э				
Marital Status ☐ Married ☐ Divorced		Separated		Not Married	
Have you, or anyone living with you, ever rece	eived cas	sh, child care, food, or medical	assistance	e? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No	
		(0) (0 (0) (0)			
If yes, who:		Where (City/County/State):	-		
What is your preferred language?					
Spoken:		Written:			
Do you and the people in your home have more	re than o	one million total dollars in cash	n, checking	, or savings (such as bank	
accounts, annuities, stocks, or bonds)?		□ No	, ,	,	
Are you or anyone in your household in the m	ilitary2	□ Voc. / □ Active Duty □	National C	uord/Pagaryas)	
Are you or anyone in your nousehold in the in	ilitai y :	☐ Yes (☐ Active Duty☐ No	National G	uald/Reserves)	
		1			
Have you ever been found guilty of child care	fraud?	Plan?  Yes		First (OWF) Self-Sufficiency	
☐ Yes ☐ No		1100			
If you are a minor, are you currently in LEAP?	☐ Ye	s 🗌 No			
4. Emergency Contact					
□ N/A First Name		MI Last Name			
Street Address					
City	County		State	Zip Code	
Harra Dhara Niverbar	0-"5"	Ni Ni		Management	
Home Phone Number	Cell Ph	one Number		May we send text messages to the cell phone number?	
Work Phone Number		)		<del>-</del>	
( )	E-Mail Address				

#### 5. Tell us about everyone that lives in your home

You must list everyone who lives with you even if they are not applying. Please be sure to list your name first. Please include all household members regardless of the member's need for child care. If you need more space, attach a separate piece of paper.

Name (First, Middle, Last)	Social Security Number (optional)	Date of Birth	Highest Level of Education Completed	Current School Attendance (if applicable)	Relation to you (spouse, son, etc)
			Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date:	☐ Elementary Grade level ☐ JR High/HS Grade level ☐ Vocational ☐ College Name of School	SELF
			Number of College Credit Hours:	Hours in School: From To	
			Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date:	☐ Elementary Grade level ☐ JR High/HS Grade level ☐ Vocational ☐ College Name of School	
			Number of College Credit Hours:	Hours in School: From To	
			Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date:	☐ Elementary Grade level ☐ JR High/HS Grade level ☐ Vocational ☐ College Name of School	
			Number of College Credit Hours:	Hours in School: From To	
			Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date:	☐ Elementary Grade level ☐ JR High/HS Grade level ☐ Vocational ☐ College Name of School	
			Number of College Credit Hours:	Hours in School: From To	
			Some High School HS Diploma/GED 2 Year Degree 4 Year Degree Masters or Above Graduation Date:	☐ Elementary Grade level ☐ JR High/HS Grade level ☐ Vocational ☐ College Name of School	
			Number of College Credit Hours:	Hours in School: From To	

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6. Tell us more about the child(ren) who need child care					
Child 1					
Child's Fist Name		MI	Child's Last Name		
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applicant		Child's preferred spoken language		
Child's needs Does the child require protective child If yes, is there a case plan? Is the child enrolled in Head Start? If yes, what is the child's schedule?	I care?	☐ Yes	d a United States citizen or qualified alien?  No provide verification in order to receive child care.		
From to					
Child 2					
Child's First Name		MI	Child's Last Name		
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applicant		Child's preferred spoken language		
Child's needs  Does the child require protective child care? Yes No If yes, is there a case plan? Yes No Is the child enrolled in Head Start? Yes No If yes, what is the child's schedule?  From to		Is the child a United States citizen or qualified alien?  Yes No  You must provide verification in order to receive child care.			
Child 3					
Child's First Name		MI	Child's Last Name		
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applicant		Child's preferred spoken language		
Child's needs  Does the child require protective child If yes, is there a case plan? Is the child enrolled in Head Start? If yes, what is the child's schedule?  From to	I care?	☐ Yes	d a United States citizen or qualified alien?  No provide verification in order to receive child care.		
Child 4					
Child's First Name		MI	Child's Last Name		
Child's City of Birth	Relationship to Applicant	t	Child's preferred spoken language		
Child's needs Does the child require protective child If yes, is there a case plan? Is the child enrolled in Head Start? If yes, what is the child's schedule?	I care?	☐ Yes	d a United States citizen or qualified alien?  No provide verification in order to receive child care.		
From to					

JFS 01122 (Rev. 05/2018) Page 3 of 6

#### 7. Rights and Responsibilities

I understand that this application will be considered without regard to race, color, ancestry, sex, age, handicap, religion or national origin. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the answers on this application are complete and correct. I understand that the law provides penalty of fine or imprisonment, or both, for anyone convicted of accepting assistance for which he or she is not eligible. I state under penalty of perjury that all information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

By signing and submitting the application, I acknowledge and agree that the county agency and ODJFS may share certain details about the status of my application with the child care provider listed on the JFS 01121 Early Childhood Education Eligibility Screening Tool and any amendment thereto, as well as to any child care provider who I authorize to receive information regarding my application.

My signature below gives my consent to the agency and the ODJFS to make contacts that are necessary to determine my eligibility for assistance and to verify the information I have given in this application. I understand that my signature below gives the county agency permission to access available information in the Support Enforcement Tracking System (SETS) to verify my child / spousal / medical support income. My signature also gives consent to issue a system generated statewide student identifier (SSID) for each child listed in section 6 of this application.

My signature below gives my consent and authorizes the county agency to access CRIS-E or Ohio Benefits Worker Portal for the purpose of verifying the citizenship status of the children in this case and for verification of the receipt of additional public assistance. I may revoke this authorization at any time by notifying the county agency in writing.

I understand that I will be able to use publicly funded child care benefits only for children who are eligible and only up to the maximum hours authorized by the county agency. To remain eligible for publicly funded child care benefits, any required copayments (if applicable) must be paid to the provider. Failure to pay the required copayment may result in termination of publicly funded child care benefits.

I understand I must report any changes that affect my child care eligibility to the county agency, including changes in family income, hours of employment/training/education, family size and address. I understand that I must report changes within 10 days of the date they occur.

I understand that if I am approved, I will be responsible for accurately recording my child's attendance at the child care program by utilizing an automated attendance tracking system. This includes registering in the system and creating personal identification information that I will use to access the system and to serve as my electronic signature. I understand that my child care provider is not permitted to record my child's attendance on my behalf, and may not have access to my personal identification information. I understand that the attendance tracking system may take my photo or a photo of my designee/sponsor as part of the login and logout process. I understand that I am responsible for approving any changes that my provider makes in the attendance tracking system regarding my child's attendance at the program.

I understand that if my child attends a Step Up To Quality rated program, and if an assessment is completed on my child, the data will be collected and reported to ODJFS.

I have received an explanation regarding the requirements for determining eligibility, the reasons why I may not be eligible, my right to a state hearing, my responsibility for reporting changes to the county agency and the penalty, including possible civil action or criminal prosecution, for the intentional withholding or falsification of information or misuse of child care benefits, including misuse of the automated child care attendance tracking system.

Child care fraud is the willful withholding or falsification of information or misuse of child care services as determined by a court of law. Failure to meet reporting requirements may be considered fraud and may result in the following: 1) repayment of child care benefits which you received but for which you were not eligible; 2) termination or denial of child care benefits; or 3) penalty of fine and/or imprisonment if convicted of fraudulently receiving child care benefits for which you were not eligible.

Signature of Applicant	Signature of person who helped you complete this application (if applicable)	Date

#### Your civil rights

Federal law and the policies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the local County Department of Job & Family Services (CDJFS) say that we must not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a discrimination complaint, write or call HHS or ODJFS. HHS, and ODJFS are equal opportunity providers and employers.

Write or Call:
HHS
Region V, Office of Civil Rights
233 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 240
Chicago, Illinois 60601
(312)886-2359 (voice)
(312) 353-5693 (TDD) (312)886-1807 (fax)

Write or Call:

Bureau of Civil Rights 30 E. Broad St., 37th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 644-2703 (voice)

1-866-227-6353 (toll free) (614) 752-6381 (fax) 1-866-221-6700 (TTY)

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#### **EXPLANATION OF STATE HEARING PROCEDURES**

#### What is a state hearing?

If you think there has been a mistake or delay on your child care case, you may ask for a hearing by either the local county department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) or the state department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS).

A state hearing is a meeting with you, someone from the CDJFS and a hearing officer from ODJFS. The person from the CDJFS will explain the action it has taken or wants to take on your case. Then you will have a chance to tell why you think it is wrong. The hearing officer will listen to you and to the CDJFS and may ask questions to help bring out all the facts. The hearing officer will review the facts presented and recommend a decision based on whether or not the child care rules were correctly applied in your case.

#### How do I ask for a hearing?

To ask for a hearing, call or write your CDJFS or write to ODJFS, Bureau of State Hearings, PO Box 182825, Columbus, Ohio 43218-2825. If you receive a notice denying, reducing or stopping your child care, fill out that form and mail it to the Bureau of State Hearings. You may also fax your hearing request to (614) 728-9574. ODJFS must receive your hearing request within 90 days of the mailing date of the notice of action. If someone else makes a written request for you, it must include a written statement, signed by you, telling us that person is your representative. Only you can make a hearing request by telephone.

#### How do I request a telephone hearing?

If you cannot attend the hearing at the scheduled location because you do not have transportation or child care or you have medical limitations, etc., you can call 1-866-635-3748 and participate by telephone. If you participate by telephone the hearing officer will call you on the day at the scheduled time for your hearing at the telephone number you provide.

#### Will my child care benefits continue?

If you receive a notice that your child care will be reduced, stopped or restricted, the action will not be taken until the hearing is decided if we receive your hearing request within the 15 days of the mailing date on the notice.

If your child care benefits have been changed without written notice or if the change was made even though you requested a timely hearing, you can call the Bureau of State Hearings to ask if you should receive continuing benefits. Call 1-866-635-3748 and choose option number 1 from the automated voice menu. If your assistance is continuing and you lose the hearing, you may have to pay back any benefits that you were not eligible to receive.

#### What is a county conference?

An informal meeting with a person from the CDJFS may settle the issue without the need for a state hearing. This is often the quickest way to solve a problem. At this meeting someone will review your case with you. If a mistake was made, it can be corrected without the need for a state hearing. You can set up a county conference by asking your worker. If you are not satisfied with the results you can still have a state hearing. You do not have to have a county conference to have a state hearing and asking for a county conference will not delay your state hearing.

#### When will the hearing be held?

The Bureau of State Hearings will send you a notice giving the date, time and place of the hearing. This notice will be sent to you at least 10 days before the hearing. The notice also will tell you what to do if you cannot come to the hearing as scheduled. Hearings are usually held at the CDJFS. If you are unable to go there, the hearing may be held some other place convenient to you and to the other people involved. If you want the hearing held somewhere other than the CDJFS, be sure to state that on your hearing request.

#### Can a hearing be postponed?

If you cannot come to the hearing as scheduled or if you need more time to prepare, you can ask for a postponement. You must have a good reason to postpone the hearing.

#### What happens if I do not attend the hearing?

The Bureau of State Hearings will send you a dismissal notice if you don't come to the hearing. If you want to continue with your hearing request, you must contact State Hearings within 10 days and explain why you did not come to the hearing. The hearing authority will decide whether you had a good reason. If you do not call within 10 days and show good cause, the hearing will be dismissed and you will lose the hearing. The CDJFS can then take the action it was planning to take. If you disagree with the dismissal, the dismissal notice will tell you how to ask for an administrative appeal.

JFS 01122 (Rev. 05/2018) Page 5 of 6

#### What happens before the hearing?

You may have someone (lawyer, welfare rights person, friend or relative) go to the hearing to present your case for you. If you are not going to be at the hearing, the person attending for you must bring a written statement from you saying he or she is your representative.

If you want legal help at the hearing, you must make arrangements before the hearing. Contact your local Legal Aid program to see if you qualify for free help. If you don't know how to reach your Legal Aid, call 1-800-589-5888 (toll-free). If you want notice of the hearing sent to your lawyer, you must give the lawyer's name and address to the hearing authority. You and your representative have the right to look at your case file and the written rules being applied to your case. You can get a free copy of any case record documents that are related to your hearing request. Any person acting for you must provide a signed statement from you before looking at your case record or getting copies of case record documents. The CDJFS does not have to show you confidential records such as names of people who have given information against you, records of criminal proceedings and certain medical records. Confidential records, which you could not look at or question, cannot be presented at the hearing or be used by the hearing officer in reaching a decision.

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You may bring witnesses, friends, relatives or your lawyer to help present your case. The hearing officer may limit the number of witnesses allowed in the hearing at any one time if there is not enough room. You and your representative will have the right to look at the evidence used at the hearing, present your side of the case without undue interference, ask questions and bring papers or other evidence to support your case. The hearing will be recorded by the hearing officer so that the facts are taken down correctly. The hearing officer will listen to both sides but will not make a decision at the hearing. Instead, you will receive a written decision in the mail, issued by the hearing authority. After the hearing decision is issued you can get a free copy of the recording by contacting the Bureau of State Hearings.

#### What is a group hearing?

The hearings office may combine several individual hearing requests into a single group hearing, but only if there is no disagreement about the facts of each case and all involve related issues of state or federal law or county policy. The notice to schedule your hearing will tell you if you are scheduled for a group hearing. You and your representative will be allowed to present your own case individually and you will have the same rights at a group hearing as you would at an individual hearing.

#### What happens after the hearing?

You should receive a hearing decision within 90 days of your hearing request. If you disagree with the hearing decision your written decision will tell you how to ask for an administrative appeal.

#### When will compliance with the hearing decision happen?

The CDJFS must take the action ordered by the decision within 15 days of the date the decision is issued but always within 90 days of your hearing request. Contact the Bureau of State Hearings if you have not promptly received the benefits awarded by the hearing decision.

#### Does another action require another hearing?

If you receive another notice that says the CDJFS wants to change your child care benefits while you are waiting for a hearing or decision, you must ask for another hearing if you disagree with the new action. Remember, the fact that you are waiting for a hearing or decision will not stop another action from being taken on your case. You must ask for another hearing on the new action.

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