

Medicaid Overview

Understanding Eligibility and How to Access Services

June 2022

Cuyahoga Job and Family Services Public Benefits & External Relations





I. Medicaid Policy: Understand eligibility

II. Access: Accessing services

III. Best Practices: Understanding the

process



Note: Solely meeting the eligibility criteria in this presentation does not guarantee approval for these public benefit programs.





Session Objectives

- Share information with county residents on the available Medicaid programs
- Explain the relevance of questions during the Medicaid application process
- Provide assistance to customers to increase ease of access to public benefit services





CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

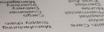
HHS Mission Statement

Transforming lives at every age and stage through collaboration, innovation, and service; connecting people with the opportunity to live their best lives.

CJFS Organizational Purpose

Cuyahoga Job and Family Services promotes economic self-sufficiency and personal responsibility for families and individuals by timely and accurately determining eligibility for a range of quality services that include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC), Child Care Assistance, and Work Programs, in accordance with Federal, State, and County regulations. This is accomplished by dedicated staff with a strong focus on customer service, and through the cultivation and strengthening of community partnerships.











Medicaid Programs



SSI Recipient

Must be in receipt of at least \$1 of Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)

- Parents/Caretaker relatives of a dependent child
- Pregnant women
- Children including Birth up to age 19
- Individuals Aged 19 through 64

Categorically Needy or Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD)

- Aged Individuals 65 and older
- Disabled Individuals
- Blind Individuals

Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD)

Working Disabled Individuals

Specialized Recovery Services (SRS)

Mental Illness and Chronic Conditions

Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP)

Medicare Recipients



Medicaid Program Non-Financial Eligibility



- Be an Ohio resident
- Have or will get a Social Security number
- Be a United States citizen or meet satisfactory immigration status
- Disclose third-party coverage
- Acceptance of available income (SSI, Social Security, Unemployment, etc.)
- Cooperation with the Office of Child Support Services

Non-U.S. citizens may be eligible for Alien Emergency Medical Assistance or Refugee Medical Assistance.



Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Recipient Medicaid



- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries are automatically enrolled on Medicaid as an SSI recipient
 - Must receive at least \$1 in SSI
 - No financial budget
 - No resource budget
- Medicaid effective date is based on their SSI payment begin date
 - Retroactive eligibility can be explored



Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medicaid



- This Medicaid category is for children, families, and individuals.
- Eligibility is determined from tax filing status information and gross taxable income.
- Income guidelines are based on the MAGI category for an individual and the number of people in their Medicaid household:
 - Parents/Caretaker relatives of a dependent child 90% FPL
 - Pregnant women 200% FPL
 - Children including Birth up to age 19 with other insurance 156% FPL
 - Children including Birth up to age 19 with no other insurance 206% FPL
 - Individuals Aged 19 through 64 133% FPL (If no Medicare is received)



MAGI Medicaid



Below is a chart showing the 2022 standards for MAGI Medicaid eligibility:

Medicaid HH Size	Parents & Caretakers	Expansion Adults	Children with Insurance	Pregnant Women	Children without Insurance
1	\$1,020	\$1,507	\$1,767	\$2,265	\$2,233
2	\$1,374	\$2,030	\$2,381	\$3,052	\$3,144
3	\$1,728	\$2,553	\$2,994	\$3,839	\$3,954
4	\$2,082	\$3,076	\$3,608	\$4,625	\$4,764
5	\$2,436	\$3,599	\$4,222	\$5,412	\$5,575
6	\$2,790	\$4,122	\$4,835	\$6,199	\$6,385
7	\$3,144	\$4,646	\$5,449	\$6,987	\$7,195
8	\$3,498	\$5,169	\$6,062	\$7,772	\$8,005



Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) Medicaid



- This category of Medicaid is or individuals that meet a limiting physical factor and are not eligible for a MAGI category of Medicaid:
 - Aged 65 years or older
 - Blind
 - Disabled
- Resources or assets must be verified and within the limit:
 - Individuals \$2,000
 - Couples \$3,000
- Income must be at or below the standard:
 - Individual \$841
 - o Couple \$1,261



Medicaid Buy-in For Workers With Disabilities (MBIWD)



- Ohio Medicaid program that provides health care coverage to working individuals with disabilities
- Full Medicaid coverage for individuals meeting the criteria below:
 - 16-64 years old;
 - Disabled according to the Social Security Administration or as determined by Ohio Medicaid; and
 - Employed in paid work (part-time or full-time)
 - At or below the 2022 Resource limit = \$13,233
 - Has gross income at or below 250% of FPL currently \$2,832
 - Pay monthly premium, if applicable
 - If gross income is at or below 150% of FPL = no premium
 - If gross income is above 150% of FPL = *premium*



Specialized Recovery Services (SRS) Medicaid



Individuals who have been diagnosed with serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI) or certain diagnosed chronic conditions may be eligible for the SRS program.

The individual must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be at least 21 years old
- Have a diagnosis of SPMI, are actively on the solid or soft transplant waiting list or have a diagnosed chronic condition
- Be determined disabled by SSA and in receipt of SSI or SSDI
- Need help with activities such as medical appointments and living skills
- Cannot live in a nursing facility, hospital, or similar setting



SRS Qualifying Conditions



Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI)	Diagnosed Chronic Conditions (DCC)		
 Psychotic disorders with hallucinations 	Certain malignancies		
or delusions	HIV/Aids or immune deficiencies		
Schizophrenia	 End state renal disease (ESRD) 		
Bipolar disorder	Sickle cell anemia		
 Major depressive and mood disorders 	Cystic Fibrosis		
 Obsessive-compulsive disorder 	Hemophilia		
 Post-traumatic stress disorder 	 Previous transplant 		
Borderline Personality Disorder	 Active on the solid organ or soft tissues transplant waiting list 		

Full list of SRS qualifying conditions:

https://medicaid.ohio.gov/resources-for-providers/special-programs-and-initiatives/srs/srs



SRS Program Benefits



What benefits are offered though the SRS program?

- Full Medicaid coverage
 - Includes additional mental health services
- Recovery Management
 - Development of a comprehensive plan of care
- Individualized Placement and Support Supported Employment (IPS-SE)
 - Assistance finding employment, if interested
 - Ongoing support to successfully maintain employment
- Peer Recovery Support
 - Assist individuals with recovery goals from others with similar life experiences



What's the Difference Between Medicaid Programs?

SSI RECIPIENT	MAGI	AGED, BLIND, AND DISABLED	MBIWD	SRS	
Two categories of eligibility (SSI Recipient -Aged and SSI Recipient Disabled)	eligibility (MAGI Child, pient -Aged and Recipient Parent/Caretaker, etc.)		Must be disabled and working	Must be diagnosed with serious and persistent mental illness or an identified chronic condition	
Automatically eligible for Medicaid if receiving at least \$1 of SSI	Income is based on tax status and how many people are part of the Medicaid household	Income is based on individual or couple standards	Higher income guidelines (up to 250% FPL), based on individual's income - Premium calculation is based on family income	Higher income guidelines (up to 225% FPL), base based on individual's income - No premium	
Resource eligibility was calculated when determined eligible for SSI - automatic Medicaid eligibility	Resources are not counted for eligibility	Certain resources are counted for eligibility	Certain resources are counted for eligibility	Resources are not counted for higher income thresholds	

Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP)



Medicare Premium Assistance Program

• Provide coverage of the monthly Medicare premium, deductibles, and co-payments

2022 Resource limit

- Individual \$8,400
- Couple \$12,610

Programs

- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB): Medicare A & B premiums and co-payments = 100% FPL
- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB): Medicare B premium = 120% FPL
- Qualified Individual 1 (QI-1): Medicare B premium = 135% FPL
- Qualified Disabled Working Individual (QDWI): Medicare A premium = 200% FPL



Applying For MPAP

- Use same paper application as Medicaid (7200) and write in on the application
- Alert JFS during phone call with contact center
- Note the question in the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal application that asks if anyone is receiving Medicare.





Next Generation of Managed Care



Member Transition & Enrollment

2022 Member Transition & Enrollment

Update: On April 27th, ODM announced that all 7 MCOs will begin providing healthcare coverage during the last three months of 2022.



Note: These changes do NOT impact individuals in MyCare Ohio.

As a part of ODM's transition to and implementation of the next generation program, Medicaid managed care members will have the opportunity to select a plan from one of the seven next generation MCOs <u>and</u> will have the option to change through November 30th.

Current MCOs remaining in the Next Generation program

Continuing MCOs

- Buckeye Community Health Plan
- CareSource Ohio, Inc.
- Molina Healthcare of Ohio, Inc.
- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Ohio, Inc.

MCOs joining the Next Generation Program on July 1, 2022

New MCOs

- AmeriHealth Caritas Ohio, Inc.
- Humana Health Plan of Ohio, Inc.

Hybrid MCO

- Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
 - New SE/E. Paramount regions: W & NE





Update: On April 27th, ODM announced that all 7 MCOs will begin providing healthcare coverage during the last three months of 2022.

Assignment: Family continuity; Continuity of Care Providers.

Next Generation of Managed Care

Member Transition & Enrollment | High-Level Timeline

March 2022	April	May	June	July	August	September - November 30th	December
				7/1/2022 GO-LIVE			12/1/2022
Choose or Stay Put: 3/1/2022 – 11/30/2022 Current members can select a next generation plan or will stay with their current plan. Previous members returning within 90 days will be returned to their prior plan. Decide/Start Services: [3/1 – 6/11 → 7/1] [6/12-7/31 → 8/1] [8/1-11/30 → Following Month]							Assessment with Possible Transfers
Members new	yly eligible or retur	3/1/2022 – 6/30/ rning to Medicaid w anaged care will rec	ith a gap of	11/30/2022		en Enrollment: 7/1/2022 – n 7/1/22 to 11/30/22.	>

MCO Weighted Assignments: 18-month Transition

Open Enrollment: November 2022



Next Generation of Managed Care



Member Actions

2022 Member Transition & Enrollment

Beginning March 1, 2022, members can choose a next generation managed care plan by:

Note: Standard MCO open enrollment notifications are not planned for this fall because members are being contacted now.



Visiting the Ohio Medicaid Consumer Hotline Portal at https://members.ohiomh.com



Contacting the Ohio Medicaid Consumer Hotline at (800) 324-8680



Two Member-Impacting Events

Next Generation Transition & End of the PHE / Resuming Redeterminations



DRAFT - FOR INTERNAL ODM REFERENCE AND PLANNING ONLY
CONFIDENTIAL PROPRIETARY, AND PRIVILEGED - MEDICAID PROGRAM PROCUREMENT.

Communication & Engagement Overview

Unwinding, Managed Care Transition & Implementation and Member Transition & Enrollment

BACKGROUND

Over the next 7 months, Ohio's Medicaid members will face **three critical milestones** in close succession or overlapping in time, each impacting their enrollment in the State's health care program and their ability to take advantage of program improvements slated for July 2022.

- The unwinding of the Federally Designated Public Health Emergency (PHE) and reinstatement of eligibility determinations for the entire Medicaid population
- The transition to and implementation of the next generation of Ohio's Medicaid program, including five critical strategic initiatives and enhanced services and supports for members
- Member transition enrollment in spring 2022, during which members will have the opportunity to choose from ODM's next generation managed care plans

THREE-FACETED COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Goals: Reduce confusion and uncertainty among Medicaid managed care members, encourage members to actively select a MCO and respond timely to redetermination notices



Mass & Social Media
A statewide awareness campaign



Community-Based Engagement & Outreach Personal, high-touch engagement with high-risk and hard-to-reach members



Direct-to-Member / Provider Communications
Communication directly with members in their
homes and through their health care networks;
directly with providers in their practices and
association networks



Exciting changes are coming to Ohio Medicaid!

Please update your contact information to stay informed.

In July, we introduce our next generation Ohio Medicaid program, putting **you** in the center of care. Between now and then we'll have lots of news to share that affects you.



What do I need to do?

Follow these steps to update your contact information:

- Gather your most up-to-date information, which includes your name, home address, mailing address, phone number, and email address. Also, have your social security number or Medicaid case number available to verify your identity.
- Select from three available options to update your contact information:



Call (844) 640-6446. After selecting the option for your preferred language, you should select option 2 and you will then be prompted to enter your zip code



If you have an existing Self-Service Portal (SSP) account, you can report changes online at https://ssp.benefits.ohio.gov. After logging in, click the Access my Benefits tile, then click Report a Change to my Case from the drop down and follow the prompts



Contact your County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS). You can find your CDJFS by going to the Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid website https://managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov/managed-care/managed-care-procurement

To learn more about the next generation of Ohio Medicaid, please visit managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov



Member Communications

"Update Your Contact Information" Campaign

Lack of Accurate Member Contact Info. is Critical Gap in Supporting Members Through Events Ahead

Billboard-Type Communications

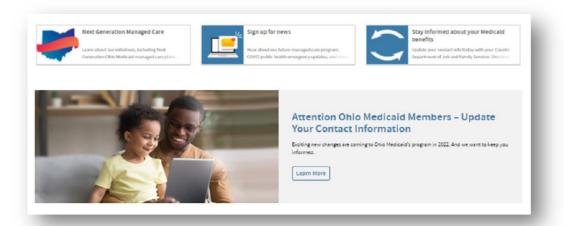
- ODM / Next Gen Websites
- Attention Ohio Medicaid Members Update Your Contact Information
- Partner/Stakeholder Awareness
- Social media posts

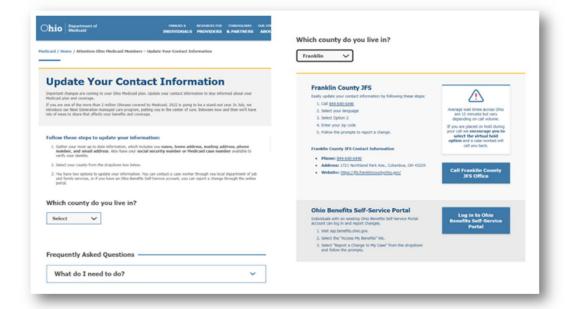
Audience

Ohioans served by Medicaid

Call to Action – Two Tracks

- Contact County JFS
- Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal











CJFS Access Online Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal



www.benefits.ohio.gov

Apply online for:

- Food Assistance: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Cash Assistance: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Locally the program is called Ohio Works First (OWF)
- Medical Assistance: Medicaid and Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP)
- Child Care Assistance

Please Note:

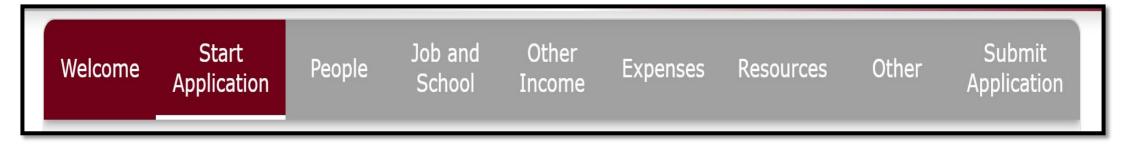
Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) which is emergency cash assistance still requires a paper application.



Process To Apply Online



- 1. To apply on the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal, a user account must be created.
- 2. Once the user account is created, the user can apply for CJFS benefit programs.
- 3. The online application for food, cash and medical assistance programs provides a flow for the applicant to easily answer questions and advance through the process.



- 4. While progressing through the application, general yes or no questions are asked related to each section. If a yes response is provided, an additional screen to input more details in created.
- 5. The applicant can upload documents for verification during the application process.
- 6. Once the application is submitted online, it is sent to the CJFS system to begin the processing.



Filling Out The Application Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal

	Required	Preferred	
	(Indicated by * in Ohio Benefits)		
	Name	Social Security Number	
		Date of Birth	
Food		Employer/Income Information	
	A dalue e e	Amount of Child Support Paid	
and	Address	Expenses (Shelter, Utility, Dependent)	
		Medical Cost	
Cash	Signature	(*For disabled and over 60 years old individuals)	
	Signature	Purchase and Prepare Meals with others in	
		the Household	
	Name		
	Address	Tax Status	
	Gender		
	Date of Birth		
	U.S. Citizenship or National	Employer/Income Information	
	Social Security Number		
84	Ohio Resident		
Medical	Medicare Coverage Expenses		
	Relationship		
	(If others are in household)		
	Does anyone live in a facility?		
	Military Service	Current Medical Coverage Information	
	Healthchek and PRS Acknowledgement		
	(For children and pregnant women)		
	Signature		



CJFS Access by Phone Eligibility Contact Center



Customers can call the Eligibility Contact Center at 1-844-640-OHIO (6446) to apply and get real-time eligibility, report case changes, and have case questions answered for the following benefit programs:

- Food Assistance: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Cash Assistance: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - Locally the program is called Ohio Works First (OWF)
- Medical Assistance: Community Medicaid, Long-Term Care and Waiver Services, and Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP)

Monday through Friday - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm



Process to Apply by Phone



- 1. When calling the Eligibility Contact Center, listen to the prompts carefully and select the option to apply for benefits.
- 2. Once speaking with an Eligibility Specialist, an application can be completed by answering the questions the Eligibility Specialist asks.
- 3. During this time, the applicant will listen to a recording of Rights & Responsibilities and state their name for the audio signature.
- 4. Many times real-time eligibility can be determined on that phone call. If verifications are needed to support the applicant's statements, the applicant will be advised over the phone and a checklist will be sent detailing what is needed and the due date for the documents to be received.



New JFS 7200 This application is for OWF, SNAP, Medicaid and Child Care

APPLICATION FOR SNAP, CASH ASSISTANCE, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE OR CHILD CARE							
1. VOTER REGISTR	ATION APPLICATION A	ATTACHED - ASSISTAN	CE AVAILABLE				
If you are not registered	d to vote where you live nov	w, would you like to apply to	register to vote here today?				
☐ YES, I want to regis	ter to vote. NO, I	do not want to register to vo	te.				
register or declining t agency.	If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this time. Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.						
	K FOR EACH PROGRAI Ir eligibility for SNAP.	M YOU WANT TO APPLY	FOR. If you do not check any boxes, we				
will only review you	r eligibility for SNAF.						
SNAP		Child Care Assistance	Cash Assistance for families with a minor child(ren) or women who are at least 6 months pregnant; or for refugees within 8 months of arrival				
3. Tell us about you	If you are an Authorize	ed Representative, enter i	nformation about the person you are				
applying for.							
First Name	First Name Middle Initial						
Last Name			·				
Do you need any of the			ur preferred language?				
Large Print Notices	Sign Language Interprete	Spoken:					
Interpreter	Other:						
Written:							
Have you, or anyone living with you, ever received SNAP, cash assistance, medical assistance, or child care assistance? Yes No							
If yes, who: Where (City/County/State):							
4. Tell us how to reach you. If you are an Authorized Representative, enter information about the person you are							







ODM 7216

This application is ONLY for Medicaid programs



Application for Health Coverage & Help Paying Costs

ODM 07216 (7/2014)



Use this application to see what you qualify for

- Affordable private health insurance plans that offer comprehensive coverage to help you stay well
- A new tax credit that can immediately help pay your premiums for health coverage
- Free or low-cost insurance from Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)



Who can use this application?

- · Use this application to apply for anyone in your family.
- Apply even if you or your child already has health coverage. You could be eligible for lower-cost or free coverage.
- If you're single, you may be able to use a short form.
 Visit HealthCare.gov.
- Families that include immigrants can apply. You can apply for your child even if you aren't eligible for coverage. Applying won't affect your immigration status or chances of becoming a permanent resident or citizen.
- If someone is helping you fill out this application, you may need to complete Appendix C.



Apply faster online

Apply faster online at HealthCare.gov or benefits.Ohio.gov.



What you may need to apply

- Social Security Numbers (or document numbers for any legal immigrants who need insurance)
- Employer and income information for everyone in your family (for example, from paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- · Policy numbers for any current health insurance
- Information about any job-related health insurance available to your family



Why do we ask for

We ask about income and other information to let you know what



CJFS Access by Email



Medicaid, SNAP and TANF - A fillable application can be downloaded, completed and emailed to CJFS

- Download from http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/num/JFS07200/pdf/
- Email applications and verifications to CJFSDocs@jfs.ohio.gov

Long-Term Care Medicaid

Case Verifications may be scanned and emailed to <u>SMBC-Documents@jfs.ohio.gov</u>

Prevention, Retention and Contingency – Emergency Assistance Applications

- Download from https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/docs/default-source/forms/prcapp.pdf?sfvrsn=6f68a80e_6
- Email applications and verifications to <u>Cuy-PRC-Applications@jfs.ohio.gov</u>

Child Care Assistance – A fillable application can be downloaded, completed and emailed to CJFS

- Download from http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/num/JFS01138/pdf
- Email to: <u>Cuy-Childcare-Assistance@jfs.ohio.gov</u>

NOTE: Please send all verifications as attachments to the email and not in the body of the email. Also, include full name and case number or last four digits of their SSN when sending documents via email.

CJFS Access by Fax



Applications for benefits and verifications can be **faxed** using one of the fax number options below. All fax numbers are routed to our Mail Imaging Processing Center (MIPC).

(216) 987-7700	(216) 987-8487				
(216) 391-5122	(216) 881-4416				
(216) 961-2630	(216) 635-2924				
PRC and Child Care Only Fax (216) 987-8655					
Long-Term Care Fax (216) 987-7016					
Work Programs Fax (216) 987-8974					



CJFS Access Using a Safe and Secure Drop Box Neighborhood Family Service Centers



Documents may still be dropped off at several of our locations

• While our lobbies are closed to the public, a locked document drop off box is still available in the vestibules of the following locations:

Virgil E. Brown	Westshore	Quincy Place	Old Brooklyn	Jane Edna Hunter	Mt. Pleasant
1641 Payne Ave.	9830 Lorain Ave.	8111 Quincy Ave.	4261 Fulton Pkwy	3955 Euclid Ave.	13815 Kinsman Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44114	Cleveland, OH 44102	Cleveland, OH 44104	Cleveland, OH 44144	Cleveland, OH 44115	Cleveland, OH 44120

Note: At this time, Old Brooklyn is a drop-off site only. The drop-off box is outside and forms are not accessible at this location. If a customer is located on the West side, they may pick up forms at the Westshore location.



Document Drop boxes at the VEB building

There are two document drop-off boxes at the VEB building. **The box on the right** is for PRC and child care applications. **The drop box on the left** is for SNAP, Medicaid and cash applications or changes.

All other sites: have one drop box where all forms may be deposited.



CJFS Access on the Website



Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) launched a new website, https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us, in August 2020 to bring all of the available DHHS services to a centralized access point.

CJFS is still accessible through the website by visiting

https://cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us





CJFS Access on the Website



- Navigate the site in various ways;
 - o "I Need" What are you looking for?
 - "I Am A" What is your role?
 - Departments
 - Resources, etc.
- Get program information for CJFS public benefit programs.
 - Learn about the public benefit programs
 - Basic eligibility information
 - Understand application processes
 - Download related applications and forms
- Learn about the CJFS State Hearings process.





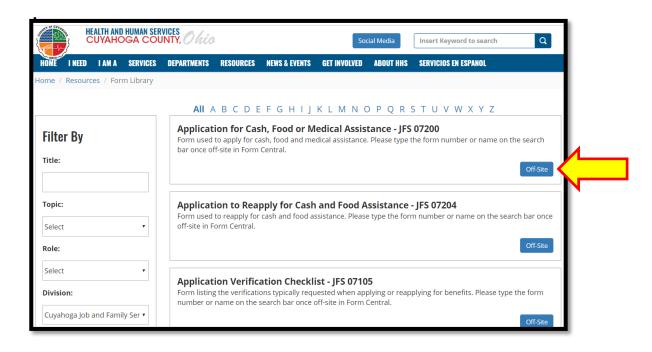


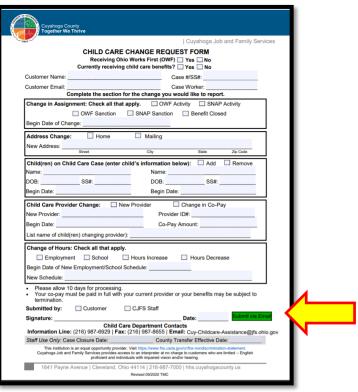


CJFS Access on the Website



- Access the Form Library at https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/resources-data/form-repository
- Download applications and forms
 - o Filter by the Title, Topic, Role, or HHS Division.
 - Customers can download many applications and forms, complete them electronically, and email them to CJFS.







CJFS Access at Library Partner Locations



Public Benefit Community Navigators















CJFS Access at Library Partner Locations



- Trained Public Benefit Community Navigators are available to help the public apply online, over the phone, or via fax.
- Fax services are available to the public to send verification documents requested by Cuyahoga Job and Family Services for free.
- Current partners are Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland Public Library and Shaker Heights Library Systems.

	Fax Cover Sheet			
	Tax cover energy			
	Library Branch:			
	CJFS – Library Fax Number: (216) 987-8390			
Case Name:	Contact Phone Number:			
Contact Email Address:	Case Number:			
Social Security Number:	No. of Pages (including cover sheet):			
*Faxes received after 5pm M-F onext business day.	or over the weekend will be considered received the			
Documents Enclosed:				
Application	Residency Verification			
Bank Statements	Unemployment Verification			
Birth Verifications	W2 / Tax Return			
Car Registration / Title	Work Activity Documents			
Childcare Documents	Other			
Employment Verification(s)				
Medical Bills				
Identification				
Income Verification(s)				
Pregnancy Verification				



OFFERING MEANINGFUL ACCESS TO CUSTOMERS



Access to Language Services – Interpretation and Translation

This service is available to any customer needing assistance in another language.

- CJFS can arrange an interpreter for scheduled appointments and walk-in customers.
- CJFS uses an outside provider and also has designated bilingual staff who manage the non-English speaking customers case bank.

Access to Voter Registration Services

This service is offered to customers at application, reapplication or when an address change is submitted to CJFS.









Assister vs. Authorized Representative:

Assister is an individual who *helps* an individual complete a benefits application, compile paperwork, etc.

Authorized representative is a personal friend, relative, or lawyer who has been granted permission by an individual seeking assistance *to act on their behalf*, including during eligibility interviews or state hearings.

Unlike assisters, authorized representatives are responsible for the content of benefits applications and are generally liable for any misinformation provided.

SOURCE:

https://www.communitysolutions.com/research/ohio-community-groups-face-challengeshelping-needy-ohioans-navigate-new-ohio-benefits-system/





Authorized Representatives



Who can be an Authorized Representative?

Anyone 18 years of age or older or an organization that the applicant or recipient (client) designates as their representative in writing.

How do you become an Authorized Representative?

- The client designates the individual or organization as an authorized representative in writing.
- The individual is the client's legal guardian.
- If necessary, the CJFS can designate an individual or organization as the client's representative.

How long is someone authorized to represent the client?

The authorization to represent the client continues until the client revokes the privilege. The client can revoke the authorization at any time.

What are the responsibilities of an Authorized Representative?

- The authorized representative is required to provide information and documents as if they were the client, including reporting changes to the Agency.
- They are liable for any information provided to agency on behalf of customer



CJFS Authorized Representative Form



0830				Cu	yahoga Job and Family
C	uvahod	a Job and F	amily Serv	ices	
		Authorized			Form
ection 1 (Please print)		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Case Num		
Name of Applicant	Medicaid I	Billing Number or S	SN	Count	/
Street Address (Include Apt. #)	City			State	Zip
hereby authorize the followin	a person or	entity to act as m	y representative		
This authority lasts until	g person or	entity to act as in		until it is	revoked by me in writing
Name of Representative	Title		Company		
Home Phone	Work Pho	ne	Email Address		
Mailing Address	City			State	7in
Mailing Address	City			State	Zip
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- In the Spring of 2021, CJFS created a Designation of Authorized Representative Form that meets the new Medicaid guidelines.
- You can use our CJFS Designation of Authorized Representative Form to designate an authorized representative for SNAP, Medicaid or cash assistance. Find the form:
 - Online: Download the form from our forms library at cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us. Click "Resources" in the top bar to access our Form Library. This form is available in nine languages.
 - In person: You can pick up forms from all drop-box locations with the exception of Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Family Service Center, which is a drop-off only site.



Releasing of Information

What information can be shared with others?

- If they are the authorized representative, the same information that would be shared with the client. All notices must be sent to the client and the authorized representative.
- If they are NOT the authorized representative, they are ONLY entitled to billing information that is directly related to their organization.





Eligibility Contact Center Best Practices



- Self-identify by entering zip code, SSN and DOB. The information will "screen pop" on the agent desktop and provide link to electronic case file.
- Listen to the prompts carefully and choose the correct queue. This will help reduce call wait time.
- Utilize "Virtual Hold:"
 - √ Hold place in line
 - ✓ Caller will receive a call from "State of Ohio"
- Allow at least five business days after returning ALL requested verification documents for the agency to take action.
- Carefully review agency correspondence and provide documents timely.



Eligibility Contact Center Best Practices



- If the specified time on your appointment letter was missed, try calling the contact center again.
- Try to avoid calling during peak times (Mondays, Lunch times between 11am and 1pm)
- Interpretation services are available during all Contact Center hours; if it is not a scheduled appointment, there may be a slight wait while contacting the interpretation agency
- Sign up for text notifications to be alerted of benefit status, documents received, and more.



Customer Relations

Main contact number: 216-802-2810

Email

<u>CuyahogaCustomerRelations@jfs.ohio.gov</u>

- Staff addresses escalated issues within 48hours of initial request and informs customers of next steps after consulting with eligibility staff.
- Provide name, address, home or cell number, or other contact information where customer can be reached.



Follow Us on Social Media!





facebook @CuyahogaJobandFamilyServices



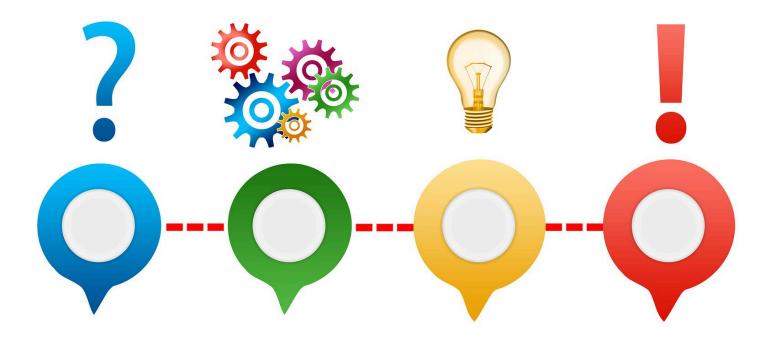
@cjfsoutreach

Thank you to our partners that already follow us:

CMSD, CEOGC, Cleveland City Council, Cuyahoga EITC Coalition, The Centers for Families and Children, ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, Asian Services In Action, Passages, Casa Alma, Lorain County, YMCA, University Heights City Hall, Burton Bell Carr Development, Inc., City of Lakewood



QUESTIONS?









Presentation Team



Tina Coleman, Community Engagement and Special Projects Supervisor

Desiree Colasent, Employment and Family Service Specialist / COMET Member

Tiana Vuyancih, Employment and Family Service Specialist / COMET Member

Questions related to public benefits and this training can be directed to:

Cuyahoga Job and Family Services
Public Benefits & External Relations
Office of Community Engagement
Community_Outreach@jfs.ohio.gov

Visit our website at http://cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us

