

Definitions

Adult is an individual age 19 or older; also includes those age 18 that have graduated from secondary school or are not full-time enrolled in secondary school or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training. GED enrollment does not impact adult/minor child status.

Assistance Group (AG) is defined as a group of individuals treated as a unit for the purpose of determining eligibility for a given CSDJFS program or service. In addition, the AG identifies the number of eligible and ineligible individuals in a household depending on the program or service in question. The Summit County PRC Plan, or guidance provided to CSDJFS TXX providers, may be consulted for greater detail about determining Assistance Groups.

CSDJFS – The County of Summit Department of Job and Family Services will be referred to as CSDJFS throughout this service delivery guidance.

Economic Sustainability is the ability to assess that an applicant will have sufficient funds to meet all their financial obligations, whether they receive assistance or not. This includes an applicant's ability to support current monthly expenditures indefinitely.

Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) are used to determine economic eligibility for CSDJFS services delivered under TANF, TXX, SNAP E&T, and Benefit Bridge. This is sometimes referred to as "FPL", which may be referenced in ODJFS or CSDJFS guidance.

Hard Services are benefits having cash value (e.g., rent payments) that are provided to participants either as PRC services or OWF support services.

Ineligible Assistance Groups – When an individual has a certain status or disqualification (e.g., fugitive felon, committed public assistance fraud), and they are included in the assistance group seeking assistance from a CSDJFS program, the entire assistance group requesting services is ineligible.

Minor child is a child under the age of 18 or who has not attained the age of 19 and is a full-time student in a secondary school or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training (GED classes do not qualify).

Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) program is designed to help families overcome immediate barriers to achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency. The PRC program has become a critical tool for Ohio counties to help families become and stay self-supporting. The services and benefits provided under the PRC program fall into three categories:

Prevention services designed to divert families from ongoing cash assistance by providing short term, specifically tailored programming towards this goal.

Retention services provided to assist an employed member of the family in maintaining employment.

Contingency services provided to meet an emergent need which, if not met, threatens the safety, health, or wellbeing of one or more family members.

The PRC program is a non-assistance program that provides nonrecurring, short-term, crisis-oriented benefits or services that are directly related to the four purposes of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. As legally required, PRC services **do not** meet the federal definition of assistance.

Soft Services are services without cash value to the recipient (e.g., case management, job training and education, after-school programs, etc.) that are provided to participants either as PRC services or OWF support services.

Subrecipient is an agency or organization that receives federal funds from CSDJFS for the purpose of delivering a program or service to qualified Summit County residents. As contracted agents of CSDJFS, subrecipients are required to meet federal and/or state requirements that come with administering public funds (i.e. background checks, staff qualifications, training requirements).

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

States have broad flexibility to carry out their programs. The States, not the federal government, decide on the design of the program, the type and amount of assistance payments, the range of other services to be provided, and the rules for determining who is eligible for benefits. The State of Ohio has developed the PRC program to carry out the TANF program.

The TANF program is time limited and assists families with children when the parents or other responsible relatives cannot provide for the family's basic needs. The federal government provides grants to States to run the TANF program. These State TANF programs are designed to accomplish four goals:

1. To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.
2. To end the dependency of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.
3. To prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies.
4. To encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.