

Cash Assistance

Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) provides a monthly check, or Cash Assistance, to low income families with minor children at home.

In Ohio, the TANF program is called Ohio Works First (OWF). OWF provides temporary support to families while parents work their way toward becoming self-sufficient. A typical family of three receives \$450 a month. Families may receive cash assistance for 36 months (does not have to be consecutive).

There are two types of extensions:

1. **Good Cause:** Must be off assistance for two years and meet certain work-related criteria.
2. **Hardship:** Must meet at least one of several criteria. About half the families on hardship extensions have four or more children under the age of 14.

Who is eligible?

Eligibility is based on a family's income and the number of people living in the home. In addition, adults must be working or involved in an approved work activity for at least 30 hours per week.

How to apply

Online:

- Visit <https://odjfsbenefits.ohio.gov/SelfServiceSplash.jsf> to use the Online Benefit Application for cash, food and medical assistance; or
- Go to <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/interfind.asp?formnum=7200> and print out an application. Complete the application and mail it or fax it to:

Hamilton County Job and Family Services
222 East Central Pkwy., 1st Floor
Cincinnati, OH 45202

FAX: (513) 946-1076

(Note: Forms can be faxed for free from any branch of the Cincinnati/Hamilton County Public Library.)

By phone:

Call (513) 946-1000 and an application will be sent to you.

In person:

Hamilton County Job and Family Services
222 East Central Pkwy, 1st Floor
Cincinnati, OH 45202

For more information about applying for cash, food and medical assistance, go to:

http://www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org/Buttons/Clients_Customers/OWF/Application.htm

Important

All applications will take 30 days to process and phone interviews may be delayed up to one day.