



# **RICHLAND COUNTY**

## **J O B   &   F A M I L Y   S E R V I C E S**

(RCJFS)  
Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan  
(PRC)

2025 Biennial Plan  
October 2025

## **Table of Contents**

PRC Services

Legislatively Defined Eligibility Components

Eligibility and Application

PRC Application Form

Approval and Denial Forms

Chart of Services

Monthly Federal Poverty Guideline Standards

Richland County's PRC Plan at a Glance

Chart of Indirect Services

Addenda

Amendments

Signature Page

Biennial/Revision Dates

## Prevention, Retention, Contingency (PRC) Services

Prevention, Retention, Contingency (PRC) services are services to assist families in moving toward self-sufficiency. Services and benefits made available through this plan meet the Federal definition of "non-assistance". Non-assistance, as it relates to this Plan, is defined as the following:

- Nonrecurring, short-term benefits that are designed to deal with a specific crisis or episode of need;
- Nonrecurring, short-term benefits that are not intended to meet recurrent or ongoing needs;
- Nonrecurring, short-term benefits that will not extend beyond four months;
- Work subsidies (i.e. payments to employers or third parties to help cover the costs of employer wages, benefits, supervision and training);
- Supportive services such as transportation provided to families who are employed;
- Services such as counseling, case management, peer support, child care information and referral, transitional services, job retention, job advancement, and other employment related services that do not provide basic income support.

The maximum allowance for Richland County PRC services/benefits is **one PRC request within a period of 12 consecutive months**. Within the 12-month period, services may be authorized to cover **a single PRC application per household** to assist families with basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, utilities, personal care items, and general incidental expenses.

PRC benefits for the single request/application of need may not exceed \$2,000.00 for such services as payments of rent/mortgage or utilities and may not exceed \$2,000.00 for car repair services.

Additionally, on a case-by-case basis, an AG may be eligible for "wrap-around/bundled" services that may not exceed \$3,000.00 per episode. Wrap-around/bundled services are designed to offer the AG an opportunity to become current on multiple, delinquent bills. An example of a wrap-around/bundled service might be payment of delinquent rent, a delinquent gas bill and the purchase of tires for a car used for employment; for which, the total of all services will not exceed \$3,000.00. Another example of a wrap-around/bundled service might be the repair of two vehicles in a two-parent AG; for which, the total of all repairs will not exceed \$3,000.00.

For the purpose of this PRC Plan, an assistance group (AG) applying for and which may receive services/benefits is defined as a group of individuals treated as a unit. The unit must contain a minor child (under the age of 18 or under the age of 19 if attending high school on a full-time basis). Eligible AG must, at a minimum consist of:

- Pregnant individual with no other children;
- An AG may include parents/caretakers, legal guardians or custodians, or specified relatives with minor children (other, non-related household members living at the same address may be excluded from the AG if not directly benefitting from the service); or
- Non-custodial parent who lives in the state but does not reside with his/her minor child(ren) and who is cooperating with CSEA at least one month prior to the date of the application may be eligible for direct services.

Pursuant to section 5107.10 of the Ohio Revised Code and rule 5101:1-3-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code, an AG including a "temporarily absent" child may still qualify for PRC benefits/services. Within a household, all income and resources for members of the AG as defined above will be considered in determining financial eligibility for payment.

**Note: When determining eligibility for PRC, liquid resources (to include, but not be limited to, money in a savings account, savings certificates, and lump-sum payments and excluding federal tax credits and refund payments) and non-liquid resources (to include, but not be limited to, personal property, land, recreational properties, and boats) may be considered as part of the household income. Liquid resources with a value of \$400 or less will not be considered when determining emergent need. Non-liquid resources with an equity value which exceeds \$400 may be included as part of the household income when determining emergent need. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.**

Specific groups are not eligible to receive direct services under the Richland County Prevention, Retention, Contingency (PRC) Plan. Direct services are defined as those provided by Richland County Job and Family Services (RCJFS) staff and include shelter costs, deposits on shelter and utilities, car repairs, utility payments, clothing/uniforms for employment and short-term education services. The following groups are not eligible to receive direct PRC services under the Richland County Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Plan:

- Fugitive felons and probation and parole violators;
- Individuals with an outstanding fraud overpayment balance or involved in an Intentional Program Violation (IPV);
- Individuals who are ineligible for other programs due to deliberate non-compliance with the terms of their assistance;
- Assistance Groups (AGs) that are under sanction through the Ohio Works First (OWF) and/or Food Assistance (FA) program and that are not employed or do not need PRC services/benefits to maintain or accept bona fide employment;
- An unmarried, non-graduate parent under 18 not attending high school or an alternative high school program;
- An unmarried, non-graduate parent under 18 not living in an adult supervised setting;
- A person found to have fraudulently misrepresented residence in order to obtain assistance in two or more states (ineligible for ten years);
- Families who do not use their own resources to help meet their need;
- PRC AGs that indicate a pattern of requesting assistance and/or non-payment of expenses;
- Individuals who falsify a PRC application;
- Individuals who fail to cooperate with any service plan connected to their PRC assistance; and
- Individuals who are on strike.

Prevention, Retention, Contingency benefits/services are not entitlements and are subject to availability of funding. PRC benefits and services are subject to regulations as set forth in Ohio Administrative Code 5101:1-23-70 regarding Ohio Works First (OWF) erroneous payments. Therefore, PRC applicants and/or recipients determined to have fraudulently received or improperly disposed of PRC benefits or services will be required to reimburse the full costs of the benefits or services and may be subject to prosecution.

The PRC program is designed to help individuals overcome immediate barriers to achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency and personal responsibility, thereby preventing the need for ongoing

public assistance. RCJFS staff will inform individuals seeking PRC assistance about other programs such as Food Assistance, Child Care and Medicaid, which may assist the individuals in becoming self-sufficient.

## **Civil Rights Laws**

The following civil rights laws apply to states, counties and other public and private entities that receive federal financial assistance and provide funds, training and other TANF-funded services and benefits. The laws require that federally assisted programs be administered in a manner that does not discriminate or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, age, religion or political belief. RCJFS, in its administration of the PRC program, adheres to the following:

- a) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- b) Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA);
- c) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

Any PRC/TANF applicant or recipient who believes he/she has been discriminated against may file a discrimination complaint with:

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
Bureau of Civil Rights  
30 East Broad Street, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414  
(614) 752-6381 (Fax)

The Bureau of Civil Rights (BCR) staff is available to offer assistance with writing and filing a complaint. For assistance, call BCR at (614) 995-7770/toll free at 1-866-227-6563; TTY at (614) 995-9961/toll free at 1-866-221-6700.

## **Employment Laws**

RCJFS, in its administration of the PRC program, adheres to the following employment laws as they pertain to PRC/TANF recipients involved in federally required work activities:

- a) Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA);
- b) Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA);
- c) Unemployment Insurance (UI); and
- d) Anti-discrimination laws.

## **Legislatively Defined Eligibility Components**

### **Social Security Number**

All PRC applicants must provide social security numbers or demonstrate they have applied for social security numbers as a condition of receipt of TANF, as required under Section 1137(a) of the Social Security Act. The applicant's social security number will be used for the following:

- a) to check information provided against information held by other federal, state, or local governments; computer matching systems and program reviews or audits;
- b) to monitor compliance with program regulations and for program management;
- c) for felony warrant matches;
- d) for parole or probation violation matches by law enforcement agencies; or
- e) for purposes of investigations, prosecutions, and criminal or civil proceedings within the scope of law enforcement agencies' official duties.

The applicant's social security number may be used to verify information provided when determining eligibility.

### **Citizenship**

A member of the applicant AG must be a citizen of the United States or a qualified alien as defined in section 5101:1-2-30 of the Ohio Administrative Code and further clarified in section 403(a) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 in order to receive PRC benefits/services. Additional clarification and exceptions can be found in 64 FR 41657 (August 4, 1998); sections 401(b) and 411(b) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996; Attorney General (AG) Order No. 2049-96, 61 FR 45985 (August 23, 1996); and 64 FR 17819 (April 12, 1999).

### **Residence**

Pursuant to the ruling in U.S. Supreme Court case, *Saenz v. Roe*, 526 U.S. 489 (1999), the length of time a person has lived in a place cannot be the basis to deny government assistance benefits. Therefore, durational residency is not a factor used to determine eligibility for PRC benefits/services.

### **Fraudulent Assistance**

Pursuant to section 5101.83 of the Ohio Revised Code and rule 5101:1-23-75 of the Ohio Administrative Code, PRC benefits and services may not be provided to an assistance group in which a member has fraudulently received assistance under the Ohio Works First and/or PRC programs until a member of the AG repays the cost of the fraudulent assistance. The assistance repayment procedure is developed in conjunction with the RCJFS Special Investigation Unit.

### Voter Registration

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Section 329.051, voter registration applications as prescribed by the Secretary of State must be made available to individuals applying for PRC benefits/services. RCJFS will make voter registration applications available to individuals applying for PRC benefits/services. Additionally, individuals receiving PRC benefits/services will receive a voter registration application at the time of a reported address or name change if made within 30 days of the original application.

### Notice and State Hearing Requirement

Pursuant to Chapter 5101:6 of the Ohio Administrative Code, PRC applicants are subject to state hearing rights and are to be advised of these rights at the time of application. A copy of the Explanation of State Hearing Procedures, ODJFS 4059, is given to the applicant at the time of application. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5108.09, PRC hearing decisions will be based upon the county PRC plan in effect at the time of the adverse action.

As set forth in rules 5101:6-2-02 and 5101:6-2-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code, notice is required to be issued to an applicant when an application for PRC is approved or denied. If it is determined an application for PRC is approved, the JFS 04074, "Notice of Approval of Your Application for Assistance" will be given to the applicant at the time of the appointment or will be mailed at the time of the determination. If it is determined an application for PRC is denied, the JFS 07334, "Notice of Denial of Your Application for Assistance" will be given to the applicant at the time of the appointment or will be mailed at the time of the determination.

### Charitable Choice and Faith-Based Initiatives

According to federal regulations, Code of Federal Register, 45 CFR 260.34, assistance groups have the right to request alternative providers when TANF benefits and services are provided by faith-based organizations. Assistance groups are to be notified of this right. Further guidance is provided in ODJFS Legal Brief 04-01, "Charitable Choice and Faith-Based Initiatives" and Office of Family Stability Letter #22 "Charitable Choice and Faith-Based Initiatives".

## **Eligibility and Application**

Eligibility for PRC is dependent upon the PRC AG's demonstration and verification of the need for financial assistance and/or services and whether the county determines that provision of PRC will satisfy the need. In order for the PRC AG to be determined eligible, the PRC AG's income must be at or below a specified percentage of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). PRC assistance to an eligible AG is determined using a rolling 12-month period that begins when assistance is first issued. Changes or restrictions in the plan will apply to new PRC applications and to new requests on active PRC cases. For direct services issued at RCJFS, the income limit must be at or below 200% of the FPG.

Applicants for PRC benefits/services must reside in Richland County at the time of the application. Applicants who have received PRC in another county and move to Richland County may be eligible to receive benefits. The benefit/service issued in another county will count as the



single episode of service for a consecutive 12-month period. The beginning date of PRC in the other county will be used as the beginning of the 12-month time period in Richland County.

The County is responsible for using objective criteria when determining eligibility and approving or denying an application. All applications will be approved or denied within ten business days upon receipt of all verifications. The application process will be completed in a fair and equitable manner and eligibility will be carefully evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If verifications cannot be obtained due to loss from disasters such as fire or flood, good cause may be granted and a client statement used as a statement of fact. RCJFS will determine whether an immediate need exists and whether the PRC program will benefit the individual or assistance group.

Under this program, an AG which includes at least one minor child and meets the program's eligibility requirements may receive customized assistance, goods, or services, as determined by RCJFS. An active Medicaid, OWF, or Food Assistance group including a pregnant woman or minor child(ren) is not eligible for direct PRC services unless substantially employed or meeting federal work participation requirements. However, the Medicaid, OWF, or Food Assistance group including a pregnant woman or minor child(ren) may be eligible for indirect PRC services. In all other circumstances, PRC assistance will be authorized with the expectation that the PRC AG is substantially employed or meeting OWF/CCMEP participation requirements. Substantial employment is defined as earning at least \$214 per week or \$856 monthly (20 hours per week x \$10.70 per hour/minimum wage).

**\*Note: If an AG includes an individual who is on an employer's active payroll as being on paid or unpaid medical leave with a return-to-work date, the AG will be considered to have met the definition given for active pay status of this rule. Individuals on Worker's Compensation are not eligible under this rule unless they have a return-to-work date on file with the employer.**

**\*\*Note: Income received through short-term, subsidized employment under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)/ CCMEP will be disregarded income. If there is no other income in the PRC AG household to determine "substantial employment", the AG will be determined to be ineligible for PRC services.**

All income that has been received during the 30-day budget period by any member of the PRC AG (with the exception of a minor in the household) is considered when determining financial need. Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 5101:1-24-20, income that is excluded includes the following:

- a) child support payment distributions made by ODJFS;
- b) all income that is federally excluded in the determination of eligibility for federal needs-based programs;
- c) drug discounts and transitional assistance received under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act (Section 1860D-31(g)(6) of the Social Security Act); and



- d) monetary allowances paid under Section 401 of the Veteran's Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000, effective December 1, 2000.

Anticipated income is that which is received in a typical month. Weekly income will be converted to a monthly amount by multiplying by 4, bi-weekly income will be converted to a monthly amount by multiplying by 2, and semi-monthly income will be converted to a monthly amount by multiplying by 2. If the AG will receive less than the normal number of pays in the month of application, the actual income will be used.

The total gross income, both earned and unearned, of all the PRC AG members must be counted. There are no deductions or exclusions allowed from any type of countable income. Written or verbal verification of income is required. Verification that is obtained by phone, must be clearly documented in the PRC AG record and include the name and position of the supplier of the information/verification, the date the verification was obtained, and the amount of the verified income. If the total PRC AG income is equal to or less than the specified percentage of the FPG for the PRC AG size, the PRC AG meets the income requirement.

All PRC recipients require a case plan. The PRC case plan is filed in the individual's electronic record. PRC benefits and services are documented and processed in the Ohio Integrated Eligibility System (OIES).

**Note: PRC applications remain active for 30 days. PRC requests made by the same individual or AG 30 days after an initial PRC application has been denied will require the completion of a new PRC application.**

## **Disaster Relief**

If the Governor declares Richland County a disaster county and the county is awarded additional TANF funding to address the disaster, Disaster Relief may be available to pregnant women and families with minor children (under age 18 or 19 if attending high school on a full-time basis) who meet eligibility criteria for PRC direct services. In the event of a disaster or state of emergency declared by the Governor and the issuance of supplemental funding for disaster-related PRC assistance and services, elderly and disabled individuals may be eligible to receive PRC assistance and services through non-TANF funds.

The AG must reside in Richland County, be adversely affected by the emergency condition, and meet the standard of economic need. The economic need for assistance under PRC Disaster Relief will be based on Federal Poverty Guidelines and authorized by the Director. Disaster Relief benefits will not count toward the county's PRC limit per consecutive 12-month period.

If the county is declared a disaster county and is allocated Federal disaster funds, the client must apply for federal disaster benefits at the local agency designated by the State to receive Federal FEMA funds.

## **Rent/Mortgage Payments/Deposits**

Consideration will be given for rent and mortgage payments and/or rent deposits when an applicant has a Three-Day Intent to Evict notice, Notice of Foreclosure, or a Letter of Default

(intent to foreclose). The rent/mortgage must be in past due or delinquent status. The RCJFS 508 - Past Due Rent Letter from Landlord must be completed to document the amount of rent that is delinquent, the amount required to stop the eviction or the amount requested for payment of a deposit. The statement from the landlord or mortgage company indicating the payment will stop the eviction or foreclosure must be submitted prior to authorization of the PRC payment. A payment of at least \$50 must have been paid on the last month's rent/mortgage or for the current month's rent/mortgage (if due at the time of the application) before a rent or mortgage payment will be considered. The client must have a signed statement from the landlord indicating the landlord will rent a residence to the client for a specified amount upon receipt of payment or receipt of a voucher from RCJFS. The statement must include the address of the residence.

If the amount requested by the AG for rent/mortgage and/or deposit exceeds the PRC maximum allowable amount (\$2,000.00), the client will need to pay the balance exceeding the maximum allowable amount prior to PRC approval. Amounts exceeding the PRC maximum allowable amount can be verified as paid through copy of a receipt, verbal verification from a landlord, or verification from a community agency.

### **Special Housing Situations:**

**Subsidized Housing** - Consideration will be given to paying rent and/or a deposit once the AG has received an approved certificate or a signed rental agreement to obtain lower cost housing through a qualified, subsidized housing authority such as METRO, HUD, or other private, charitable or church organization.

**Domestic Violence** - Consideration will be given to paying rent and/or a deposit in a domestic violence situation as indicated by documentation (police report, shelter statement/case plan, etc.).

**Uninhabitable/Condemned** - Consideration will be given to paying rent or a deposit on a new apartment or house for an assistance group when a minor child in the household has been determined by the Health Department or other medical provider to have high lead levels in his/her blood or the existing shelter has been determined to be uninhabitable due to lead. Additionally, consideration will be given to paying rent or a deposit on a new apartment or house for an assistance group if the existing shelter has been determined to be uninhabitable due to mold.

Housing situations alleged to be uninhabitable or condemned must be verified with a report from the Richland County Health Department, the Shelby Health Department, the City Codes and Permits Department or another authorizing agency.

**Homelessness** - Consideration will be given for paying rent and/or a deposit for an AG residing in a homeless shelter - residing in a homeless shelter is defined as two or more nights in the shelter. The AG is not required to provide an Intent to Evict notice or prove domestic violence if residing in a homeless shelter. All other requirements must be met as listed in the Rent/Mortgage Payments/Deposits section.

**Employment** - Consideration will be given for paying rent and/or a deposit for an AG moving out of county or state for employment (employment must be verified).

### **Utilities**

Consideration will be given for paying utilities if the client has received a shut-off notice or is subject to receiving a shut-off notice. Utilities include gas, electric, water service, or other

heating or cooling suppliers. Only past due amounts will be considered when determining the amount to be paid through PRC. PRC payment amounts will not exceed the maximum allowable amount of \$2,000.00. The worker will assist the client in exploring other community resources when the PRC payment will not be enough to meet the need.

**Note: Applicants must apply for HEAP assistance during the HEAP heating season. PRC funds will be utilized only after HEAP services are exhausted.**

If an AG has applied for and received HEAP services and later receives a disconnect notice for nonpayment of the bill or service has been shut off, the agency will make inquiries to determine if the applicant has paid \$50.00 toward the previous month's bill or the current month's bill before PRC eligibility for payment to stop disconnection or restore service will be considered. The past due account must be in the applicant's or spouse of the applicant's name to be considered for payment. The agency may assist the applicant or spouse of the applicant in transferring services to his/her name.

The agency may pay the minimum amount necessary to restore service and any past due amount up to the PRC maximum allowable amount (\$2,000.00) in an effort to prevent a disconnection in the immediate future; need will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The authorized payment may include a reconnect fee that is required if service has been shut off at the address at which the applicant currently resides.

## **Car Repairs**

Consideration will be given for assistance with car (vehicle) repairs when an applicant needs the vehicle for transportation to and from work. The applicant must provide verification of vehicle registration in his/her name, a copy of a valid driver's license and current proof of liability insurance which must be in effect prior to the PRC application date.

Car repairs may not exceed \$2,000.00 unless the applicant pays the difference between the PRC maximum allowable amount and the total cost of repairs prior to the PRC payment being made and provides verification of the payment. Additionally, PRC funds will not be used for repairs on vehicles deemed inoperable or unsafe by the automotive vendor.

**\*Note: Every effort will be made to use local vendors for car (vehicle) repairs.**

## **Wrap-Around/Bundled Services**

Consideration will be given for assistance with multiple, delinquent issues when the assistance will serve to bring the AG current and in a better position to maintain expenses on an ongoing basis.

On a case-by-case basis, an AG may be eligible for "wrap-around/bundled" services that may not exceed \$3,000.00 per application. Wrap-around/bundled services are designed to offer the AG an opportunity to become current on multiple, delinquent bills. An example of a wrap-around/bundled service might be payment of delinquent rent, a delinquent gas bill and the purchase of tires for a car used for employment; for which, the total of all services will not

exceed \$3,000.00. Another example of a wrap-around/bundled service might be the repair of two vehicles in a two-parent AG when at least one vehicle is used for employment purposes; for which, the total of all repairs will not exceed \$3,000.00. When car repairs are bundled, there can be no more than two vehicles in the household; the registration must be in the applicant's name with no additional owners listed, excluding spouses; and the applicant must be identified as a driver on the insurance.

Required documentation and the required co-pay for wrap around/bundled services will remain the same as identified under each service category.

### **Amounts and Types of Assistance**

PRC payments are limited to the amount actually required to meet the presenting need per single application per consecutive 12-month period of eligibility. Payment for the single episode may not exceed the \$2,000.00 maximum. Payment for wrap-around/bundled services may not exceed \$3,000.00.

Once eligibility for PRC is established, the worker designated by RCJFS to determine eligibility for PRC will authorize and generate payment for the assistance, goods, and/or services. Payments will be made to vendors according to payment procedures in place at RCJFS. All PRC payments are made to the vendor or PRC AG. The county ensures that its policies meet all auditing requirements.

### **Notice of Approval/Denial**

Refer to Legislatively Defined Eligibility Components, "Notice and State Hearing Requirement".

**Chart of Services**  
**List of Services & Benefits for Agency Issued Direct PRC Services**

Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<b><u>Job Preparation Services &amp; Benefits</u></b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]  Job readiness assessments (vocational, literacy)  Job readiness training (work habits, attitude, dress, literacy tutoring)  Adult Basic Education & GED preparation  Training for women in non-traditional jobs (construction, manufacturing, etc.)  Testing for state licenses, board certification, commercial driver's license  Occupational training for computer literacy  Short-term education expenses (books, manuals, tuition)  Financial Literacy classes  Suitable attire for job interviews  Skill training	Per single episode up to \$2000.00 maximum within a consecutive 12-month period  Non-recurring, short-term benefits - single episode, up to \$2000.00 maximum, per consecutive 12-month period	Parents with minor children  Specified relatives with minor children  Pregnant individuals  Earned income received by minor, dependent children (under age 18 or under age 19 if full-time, high school student) is exempt	Parents of minor children  Specified relative of minor children  Pregnant individual	200% FPG  Income of parents/ specified relatives, married or unmarried, and step-parents is included	Employed individuals  Individuals meeting OWF/CCMEP participation requirements

Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<u><b>Work Support/Retention Services &amp; Benefits</b></u> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]  Job Mentoring  Financial Literacy classes  Supplies for a new job (mechanics' tools, beautician equipment, etc.)  Employer mediation & intervention services  Job skill development & training	Non-recurring, short-term benefits - single episode, up to \$2000.00 maximum, per consecutive 12- month period	Parents with minor children  Specified relatives with minor children  Pregnant individuals  Earned income received by minor, dependent children is exempt	Parents of minor children  Specified relatives of minor children  Pregnant individual	200% FPG  Income of parents/ specified relatives, married or unmarried, and step-parents is included	Employed individuals  Individuals meeting OWF/CCMEP participation requirements

Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<u><b>Transportation Services &amp; Benefits</b></u> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]  Bus passes  Taxi services  Driver's education classes  *Car repairs  *Gasoline vouchers  <b>*Note: Applicants applying for car repairs and/or gasoline vouchers must verify the registration is in the applicant's name and the applicant has current liability insurance coverage and a valid driver's license.</b>	Non-recurring, short-term benefits - single episode, up to \$2000.00 maximum, per consecutive 12- month period  *Car repairs - single episode, up to \$2000.00 maximum, per consecutive 12- month period (maximum for "bundled services including car repairs is \$3000.00)	Parents with minor children  Specified relatives with minor children  Pregnant individuals  Earned income received by minor, dependent children (under age 18 or under age 19 if full-time, high school student), is exempt	Parents of minor children  Specified relatives of minor children  Pregnant individual	200% FPG  Income of parents/ specified relatives, married or unmarried, and step-parents is included	Employed individuals  Individuals meeting OWF/CCMEP participation requirements



Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<p><b><u>Family Disaster Assistance</u></b> [TANF Goal 1]</p> <p>Benefits to assist with damage or loss sustained as a result of natural disaster upon declaration by Governor</p>	Cap based on amount allocated by ODJFS	<p>Parents with minor children &amp; individuals living in the household</p> <p>Specified relatives with minor children &amp; individuals living in the household</p> <p>Pregnant Individual</p> <p>Elderly or disabled individuals (meeting specific eligibility criteria for non-TANF funded services)</p>	<p>Parents of minor children &amp; individuals living in the household</p> <p>Specified relatives of minor children &amp; individuals living in the households</p> <p>Pregnant Individual</p> <p>Elderly and disabled individuals meeting specific eligibility criteria to receive services/assistance through non-TANF funds</p>	200% FPG	Families and elderly and disabled individuals who have sustained disaster related damage or loss upon disaster declaration by Governor

Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<p><b><u>Relocation Assistance</u></b> [TANF Goal 2]</p> <p>Moving expenses to relocate out of county or state</p> <p>Moving expenses to relocate to a lead free or mold-free environment</p>	Actual cost up to \$2000.00, not to exceed a single episode within a consecutive 12-month period	<p>Parents with minor children</p> <p>Specified relatives with minor children</p> <p>Pregnant individual</p> <p>Earned income received by minor, dependent children (under age 18 or under age 19 if full-time, high school student) is exempt</p>	<p>Parents of children</p> <p>Specified relatives of minor children</p> <p>Pregnant individual</p>	200% FPG	<p>Employed individuals</p> <p>Victims of domestic violence</p> <p>Families with a minor child or children determined to have high lead levels in the blood</p> <p>Families in shelters deemed to be uninhabitable due to lead or mold</p>

Service or Benefit	Cap	AG for Counted Income	AG for Tracking Only	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
<p><b><u>Contingency Services</u></b> [TANF Goals 1 &amp; 2]</p> <p>An emergent need that threatens the health, safety, or decent living arrangement to the extent that it prohibits children from being cared for in their own home or inhibits job preparation, work and marriage.</p> <p>Utility shut offs</p> <p>Purchase of bulk fuel for heating</p> <p>Security deposits for rent</p> <p>Three-day Intent to Evict/Notice of Foreclosure/Letter of Default</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be at least 7 days delinquent</li> <li>• RCJFS 508 - Past Due Rent Letter from Landlord/Notice of Foreclosure/Letter of Default required</li> <li>• Payment of at least \$50 must have been paid on rent or mortgage in the previous 30 days (or previous billing cycle)</li> </ul> <p>Special housing situations-subsidized housing, domestic violence, uninhabitable/condemned</p> <p>Repair or purchase of furnace or water tank (homeowners only, excludes renters)</p> <p>Home repairs affecting basic structure (roof, plumbing, walls – homeowners only, excludes renters)</p>	<p>Non-recurring, short-term benefits - single episode, up to \$2000.00 maximum, per consecutive 12- month period (maximum for "bundled" services \$3000.00)</p>	<p>Parents with minor children and all other household members</p> <p>Specified relatives with minor children and all other household members</p> <p>Earned income received by minor, dependent children (under age 18 or under age 19 if full-time, high school student) is exempt</p>	<p>AG Name for family requesting services</p>	<p>200% FPG</p>	<p>Individuals meeting OWF/CCMEP participation requirements</p> <p>Employed individuals</p> <p>Victims of domestic violence</p>

## Monthly Federal Poverty Guidelines

The Monthly Federal Poverty Guideline amount is used to determine income eligibility for PRC.

In order for the AG to receive Prevention, Retention and Contingency direct services, the total gross countable income of all members of the assistance group must be equal to or less than 200% of the Monthly Federal Poverty Guideline amount for the appropriate assistance group size. To receive indirect services, the total gross countable income must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

### To Qualify for PRC Direct Services:

Assistance Group Size	200% of Monthly 2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines
1	2609
2	3525
3	4442
4	5359
5	6275
6	7192
7	8109
8	9025
9	9942
10	10859
11	11775
12	12692
13	13609
14	14525

### To Qualify for PRC Indirect Services:

Assistance Group Size	200% of Monthly 2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines
1	2609
2	3525
3	4442
4	5359
5	6275
6	7192
7	8109
8	9025
9	9942
10	10859
11	11775
12	12692
13	13609
14	14525

## Richland County's PRC Plan-At-A-Glance

PRC AG:	1) See <i>Definitions</i>
Income Limits:	<b>Prevention:</b> 200% FPG 01-19-25 <b>Retention:</b> 200% FPG 01-19-25 <b>Contingency:</b> 200% FPG 01-19-25
Benefit Issuance Limit:	1) Single episode of need per consecutive 12-month period 2) \$2000.00 maximum for a single episode/event within a consecutive 12-month period and wrap-around/bundled services which may not exceed \$3000.00 per consecutive 12-month period
Application Period:	1) 30-day period begins on the date of application and ends 30 days from the application date
Income to be Considered & Exemptions:	See <i>Chart of Services</i>
Income Verifications:	1) Phone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and position of person supplying information</li> <li>• Date obtained</li> <li>• Amount of income</li> <li>• Name of person who obtained the information</li> </ul> 2) Written (pay stubs, payroll report, employer statement) 3) Must be clarified in Journal Notes (application)
Processing:	1) Applications will be approved or denied within ten (10) business days or no later than 30 days from the date of application 2) Client "self-attestation" will be accepted if good cause has been established (verification cannot be obtained)
Budget:	1) The total of the gross earned and unearned income of all AG members compared to the FPG standard for the appropriate PRC household size 2) Must be equal to, or less than, 200% of the FPG 3) Employed applicants must meet the definition of substantially employed: earn at least \$214.00 per week
Ineligible Members:	If an ineligible individual resides in the household, the entire AG is ineligible for PRC (see details of ineligible members).
PRC Case Plan:	A case plan will be developed for applicants approved for PRC

Chart of Indirect Services			
Service	Description	Eligibility	Types of Assistance
<b>Success Unlimited</b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]	Coordination of services to improve basic literacy skills and assist in GED completion; pre-employment preparation services; Work Experience opportunities; provision of supportive services	200% FPG	GED Instruction; Life Skills Instruction; Work Experience; Support Groups; Driving Instruction; Parenting; Career Exploration
<b>Richland County Transit - Transportation</b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]	Transportation services for OWF required participants	200% FPG	Provision of bus passes; bus tickets; other transportation services as needed
<b>Richland County Children Services Auxiliary</b> [TANF Goal 1]	Assistance with school clothing (shoes and undergarments, included) and supplies	200% FPG	Assistance with School Clothes and Supplies
<b>TANF Emergency Supply Closet</b> [TANF Goal 1]	Assistance with emergency personal items to assist families with personal hygiene	200% FPG	Provision of personal hygiene items such as diapers, laundry soap, formula, shampoo, toiletries, etc. to assist parents who might be awaiting a first paycheck, receipt of public assistance benefits, etc.
<b>Overcoming Barriers to Family Stability</b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]	Assistance to help individuals/families maintain stability	200% FPG	Provision of services to help families/individuals maintain stability and maintain employment

Chart of Indirect Services			
Service	Description	Eligibility	Types of Assistance
<b>Richland County Employment Incentive Program</b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]	Employment incentives to encourage individuals to seek and maintain employment	200% FPG	Employment incentives
<b>WIOA Short-Term Training Services</b> [TANF Goals 1 & 2]	Assistance with costs associated with short-term training	200% FPG	Provision of tuition, books, uniforms, equipment, etc., required for training



## **PRC Addendum #1 Success Unlimited**

### **Purpose-**Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives"
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage"

**Program Description-**A collaborative program offered through Catalyst Life Services, Success Unlimited encompasses a range of supportive services including job readiness, GED preparation, literacy improvement, pre-employment, career exploration, and life skills such as family planning, budgeting and nutrition. Additionally, Success Unlimited offers re-entry services, opioid prevention and education services and subsidized and unsubsidized work experience opportunities. Success Unlimited provides case management to program participants to assist them in overcoming obstacles to employment and self-sufficiency. Success Unlimited staff offer assistance and training in the OhioMeansJob Richland Center.

The following pathways have been established for the Success Unlimited program:

#### **A) Orientation Pathway:**

Referral received, participant record created, orientation session scheduled, assessment to identify barriers to employment conducted; completion

#### **B) GED/ADP Pathway:**

Enrollment in GED/Adult Diploma Program; assessment of barriers to employment conducted; periodic assessments of academic progress (TABE/WorkKeys) conducted; completion

#### **C) Training Pathway:**

Enrollment in career center or college; academic assessments (TABE, WorkKeys, PAS, college readiness) conducted; assessment of barriers to training and employment conducted; completion

#### **D) TREE (Training Readiness Education and Employment) Pathway:**

Enrollment in TREE; academic assessments (TABE, college readiness) conducted; assessment of barriers to training and employment conducted; completion

#### **E) Work Experience, Community Placement and Internship Pathway:**

Placement at unsubsidized or subsidized worksites; placement in a college or career center training program; completion of an academic and/or employment plan; ongoing assessment of goal achievement; completion

#### **F) One Strike Pathway:**

Intensive support and case-management for individuals with compromised backgrounds to address employment barriers

#### **G) Opioid Prevention and Education**

Intensive support and case management for individuals and families affected by the opioid crisis, including services to support training and employment

**Eligibility & Application-** Eligibility & Application - Individuals may be referred through RCJFS programs (SNAP E&T, OWF, CCMEP, PRC, WIOA, etc.) and other

community partners. Services provided with TANF funds are considered as "non-assistance". Therefore, objective criteria must be utilized in determining eligibility and delivering services to ensure fair and equitable treatment of those applying for services.

Eligible participants are those individuals with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline with minor children residing in the household, and who are residents of Richland County.

Potential participants must complete a TANF application and may be referred by RCJFS and other community agencies. The Director of Success Unlimited is responsible for managing applications, referrals and notifications of approval or denial of TANF Services as required.

**Types of Assistance (Services)**-GED/High School completion; life skills instruction; work experience; paid internships; support groups; career exploration and development; tutoring for post-secondary education; One-Strike; and driver's education.

***Receipt of indirect services will not count toward the maximum limit of county PRC assistance***

**PRC Addendum #2**  
**Richland County Transit-Transportation**

**Purpose-**Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives"
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage"

**Program Description-**The provision of transportation assistance for employment activities.

The **goal** of Richland County Transit is to provide transportation to needy families to enable them to work or to participate in assigned Work Activities.

**Eligibility & Application-**All referrals for services are made by Richland County Job and Family Services utilizing the RCJFS Payment Authorization Form as the application for services. Eligible participants are those at or below 200% FPG as documented on the PRC application.

**Types of Assistance (Services) -** Bus passes, bus tickets, and purchased transportation services

***Receipt of indirect services will not count toward the maximum limit of county PRC assistance***

**PRC Addendum #3**  
**Richland County Children's Auxiliary - The New Store**

**Purpose-**Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives"
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage"

**Program Description-**The Richland County Children's Auxiliary (The Auxiliary) will provide school clothing, personal hygiene products and winter coats for students in pre-school through eighth grade. In addition, The Auxiliary will provide backpacks filled with age-appropriate school supplies for students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Eligible students will be provided with four outfits, a hooded jacket, undergarments, gym shoes, a bag of personal hygiene items and a book. Children and their parents/guardians will visit The New Store on "dressing days" to select clothing up to two times per school year and will be invited to a Winter Coat Giveaway to receive coats, hats and gloves.

The **goals** for The New Store program are:

- 1) School age children will receive needed school clothing, coats and backpacks/school supplies;
- 2) Avert cash resources to address other basic needs of families;
- 3) Decrease the likelihood children will be "bullied" as a result of not having adequate school clothing;
- 4) Enhance the educational experiences of participating children; and
- 5) Increase the likelihood of positive school experiences for participating children (i.e. prevent in-school suspensions as a result of wearing inappropriate clothing).

**Eligibility & Application-** Services provided with TANF funds are considered as "non-assistance". Therefore, objective criteria must be utilized in determining eligibility and delivering services to ensure fair and equitable treatment of those applying for services.

Eligible participants are those individuals with income at or below 200% of the FPG with minor children residing in the household. Additionally, participants must be residents of Richland County.

Potential participants must complete a TANF application, which is a self-declaration of income. Richland County Children's Auxiliary, the administrative agent for the project, is responsible for acquiring all TANF applications and issuing notices of approval or denial for TANF services.

**Types of Assistance (Services)-**School clothing and school supplies for school age children

***Receipt of indirect services will not count toward the maximum limit for county PRC assistance***

**PRC Addendum #4**  
**TANF Emergency Supply Closet**

Purpose-Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives"
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage"

**Program Description-**Non-recurring assistance to assist families with personal hygiene items that may impact the caretakers' ability to care for children and continue employment and/or training and for children to continue in child care, pre-school or school. Richland County Job and Family Services will stock a TANF Emergency Supply Closet with personal hygiene items such as shampoo, deodorant, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. in an effort to assist families with hygiene items when the family is awaiting receipt of benefits, awaiting receipt of an employment check and/or struggling between paychecks. Additionally, items such as cleaning items, baby formula, diapers and baby wipes are available to assist families in need.

**Eligibility & Application-** Services provided with TANF funds are considered as "non-assistance". Therefore, objective criteria must be utilized in determining eligibility and delivering services to insure fair and equitable treatment of those applying for services.

Eligible participants are those individuals with income at or below 200% of the FPG with minor children residing in the household. Additionally, participants must be residents of Richland County. Potential participants must complete a TANF application unless currently receiving public assistance. Richland County Job and Family Services Employment Services Counselors and Social Service Workers and Success Unlimited Case Managers are responsible for acquiring documentation of receipt of public assistance or TANF applications and issuing Notices of Approval or Denial for TANF services.

**Types of Assistance (Services)-**Personal hygiene items necessary to assist families in maintaining their homes, employment/training and keeping children in child care/pre-school/school settings

***Receipt of indirect services will not count toward the maximum limit for county PRC assistance***

**PRC Addendum #5**  
**Catholic Charities - Overcoming Barriers to Family Stability**

**Purpose**--Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives."
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage."

**Program Description**--Catholic Charities will assist individuals residing in Richland County who are struggling to maintain stability. Services may include assistance with paying delinquent and/or current car insurance payments that are at risk of becoming delinquent, assistance obtaining auto insurance; assistance paying delinquent and/or current car payments that are at risk of becoming delinquent, assistance paying renewal or initial driver's license fees, assistance paying vehicle registration fees/tags; intake, assessment and case management to provide household budget counseling (individuals seeking assistance with current payments must participate in financial/budget counseling); assistance paying for transportation services outside the scope of county transit (i.e. employment outside Richland County, second or third shift employment, etc.); and assistance paying for auto repairs for individuals who are not eligible for the PRC program. In an effort to avoid duplication of services, Catholic Charities will direct individuals seeking assistance with vehicle repairs who are employed and have minor children to apply through the Richland County Job and Family Services PRC program. Additionally, individuals who meet specific criteria will be assisted with gas cards and/or bus passes available through a grant program offered by Goodwill Industries.

**Eligibility & Application**-Services provided with TANF funds are considered as "non-assistance". Therefore, objective criteria must be utilized when determining eligibility and delivering services to ensure fair and equitable treatment of those applying for services.

Eligible participants are those individuals with income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline. Additionally, the individual must meet at least one of the following criteria: be the parent or legal guardian of a minor child living in the household; be pregnant; or be a non-custodial parent providing support to a minor child.

An eligible individual/family may receive up to \$1500.00 in supportive service benefits. Potential participants must complete a TANF application, which is a self-declaration of income but which must note all household members (with Social Security numbers) and all household income and must be signed by the applying adult. Catholic Charities, the administrative agent for the project, is responsible for acquiring all TANF applications. Additionally, Catholic Charities must issue the notices of approval or denial for TANF services.

**Types of Assistance (Service)**-Supportive services to maintain employment

***Receipt of indirect services will not count toward the maximum limit for county PRC assistance***

## **PRC Addendum #6 Employment Incentive Program**

### **Purpose-**Meets TANF Goals 1 & 2

- a) "To provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives"
- b) "To end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage"

**Program Description-**Richland County Job and Family Services will provide employment incentives to individuals who are currently enrolled and have obtained employment or have stopped receiving SNAP, OWF or Medicaid benefits within the past 90 days as a result of employment.

**Eligibility & Application-** Services provided with TANF funds are considered as "non-assistance". Therefore, objective criteria must be utilized in determining eligibility and delivering services to insure fair and equitable treatment of those applying for services.

Eligible applicants will include the following:

- a) Individuals who are currently enrolled in, or who have stopped receiving SNAP, OWF or Medicaid benefits in the past 90 days; or
- b) Individuals who are currently employed or starting a job; and
- c) Meet the income eligibility requirement of 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; and
- d) Are employed (will begin employment) at least 32 hours per week.

Eligible participants are those individuals with income at or below 200% of the FPG with minor children residing in the household. Additionally, participants must be residents of Richland County. Potential participants must complete a TANF application unless currently receiving public assistance. Richland County Job and Family Services case managers are responsible for acquiring documentation of receipt of public assistance or TANF applications and issuing Notices of Approval or Denial for TANF services. Additionally, case managers will complete an individualized plan with each participant that includes a household budget. Case managers will meet with participants at least quarterly to update the household budget and identify supportive services needed to maintain continued employment. Participants will be required to complete a financial literacy workshop to be eligible to receive the first incentive payment.

Eligible participants may receive up to a total of \$500 in employment incentives paid in three intervals according to the following criteria:

- a) Initial payment of \$100 paid at the time of verified employment, increase in employment hours, or increase in wages per hour;



- b) Second payment of \$200 paid at the end of 60 consecutive days of employment or continued employment at increased hours or hourly rate (verified); and
- c) Final payment of \$200 paid at the end of 120 consecutive days of employment or continued employment at increased hours or hourly rate (verified).

The Employment Incentive Program will remain in effect through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the availability of funding.

***Receipt of Employment Incentive Program services will not count toward the maximum limit for county PRC assistance.***

**PRC Amendment #1**  
**WIOA/Short-Term Training Services**

Richland County JFS will utilize PRC funds to supplement WIOA training funds effective October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, contingent upon the availability of funding.

Applicants with a gross income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, pregnant or with a minor child in the household, and who meet WIOA and/or PRC eligibility criteria may receive funding to offset costs associated with a short-term training program. PRC funds may be used for all education related costs covered under WIOA including, but not limited to, tuition, book fees, lab fees, examination fees, training equipment/uniform costs, etc.

Applicants must complete a TANF/PRC application and assessment. WIOA Employment Services Counselors will determine eligibility pursuant to federal, state, and locally approved PRC guidelines.

***Receipt of WIOA Short-Term Training Services will not count toward the maximum limit for county PRC assistance***

**Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) Plan  
Richland County Job and Family Services**

***Original Plan Prepared: 04-06-98***

**Revision Dates**

07-02-99	09-03-08
07-01-00	<b>10-01-09</b>
04-03-01	03-09-10
10-09-01	06-04-10
05-16-02	09-15-10
10-24-02	12-01-10
07-01-03	01-01-11
11-01-04	06-29-11
01-01-05	<b>11-09-11</b>
03-17-05	<b>05-15-12</b>
08-01-05	05-01-13
<b>10-15-05</b>	<b>10-01-13</b>
10-20-05	03-10-14
02-01-06	04-29-14
03-01-06	04-29-15
06-19-06	<b>10-01-15</b>
08-10-06	04-29-16
11-09-06	04-13-17
02-23-07	<b>10-01-17</b>
03-15-07	02-01-18
07-01-07	04-19-19
07-20-07	<b>10-01-19</b>
10-01-07	03-25-20
	05-20-20
02-23-08	04-29-21

## Prevention, Retention and Contingency (PRC) Plan Richland County Job and Family Services

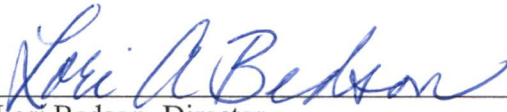
*Original Plan Prepared: 04-06-98*

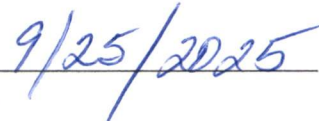
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## CERTIFICATION/SIGNATURE PAGE

Prevention, Retention, Contingency Plan biennial renewals are authorized by the Richland County Board of Commissioners and are subject to a 30-day public comment period or review by a county Family Planning Committee. PRC plan amendments which do not constitute a substantive change in the county PRC plan are authorized by the Director of Richland County Job & Family Services.


This is to certify that Richland County Job and Family Services has complied with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5108: Prevention, Retention and Contingency in updating this plan. The Richland County Family Services Planning Committee has reviewed the county biennium plan. The effective date of the Richland County Job & Family Services Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan is October 1, 2025. The plan will remain in effect through September 30, 2027.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Bedson, Director  
Richland County Job and Family Services


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date


The Richland County Board of Commissioners certifies that Richland County Job and Family Services has complied with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5108: Prevention, Retention, and Contingency in adopting and updating this policy.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darrell Banks  
Richland County Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cliff Mears  
Richland County Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Vero  
Richland County Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date