YOUR RIGHTS AS A PRC APPLICANT/PARTICIPANT

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NONDISCRIMINATION

Federal laws require that any agency administering federally funded programs and activities, cannot discriminate against you on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, political beliefs, disability, and age.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

If you have a physical or mental condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities, you may have rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Physical or mental conditions include, for example, a learning disability, mental retardation, a history of drug or alcohol addiction, depression, mobility impairment, or a hearing or vision impairment.

You can let us know if you have a disability. If you cannot do something we ask you to do, we can help you do it or we can change what you have to do.

Here are some of the ways we can help:

- We can call or visit if you are not able to come to our office.
- We can tell you what this letter means.
- If you are hearing impaired, we can provide a sign language interpreter when you come to the office.
- We can help you appeal any decisions that you do not agree with.

If you need some other kind of help, ask us. Call your caseworker.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

If your primary language (spoken or written) is not English, we can help you. Let us know if your primary language is not English.

Here are some of the ways we can help:

- We can provide you with an interpreter who can speak English and your language when you come to the office. One will be provided at no cost to you.
- We may be able to provide you documents in your own language. If we cannot, then we will provide you with an interpreter who can read the documents to you.

INFORMATION ON CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION STATUS

If you are applying for PRC benefits, you must tell us about the citizenship and immigration status of only those persons you are seeking the benefits for. We may decide that certain members of your family are not eligible for PRC because, for example, they do not have the right immigration status. If that happens, other family members may still be able to get PRC if they are otherwise eligible.

You may also need to tell us about your family's income and answer other questions we may ask.

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INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Generally, if you are applying for PRC benefits, you must provide the social security number of only those persons you are seeking the benefits for. However, there may be instances where we need the social security numbers of members of the household to verify income or other eligibility criteria to determine eligibility even though they are not seeking PRC benefits themselves. We may decide that certain members of your family are not eligible for PRC because, for example, they do not have the right immigration status. If that happens, other family members may still be able to get PRC if they are otherwise eligible.

Social security numbers may be used when contacting appropriate persons or agencies to determine your eligibility and verify information you have given for PRC; for example, income, disability benefits or other similar benefits and programs. Such information may affect your household eligibility for PRC. Your social security number may be used for a felony warrant match; a match of persons in violation of probation or parole by law enforcement agencies; or for purposes of investigations, prosecutions, and criminal or civil proceedings that are within the scope of law enforcement agencies' official duties.

HOW DO I FILE A DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT?

Your complaint can be filed with:

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Bureau of Civil Rights
30 East Broad Street, 37th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414
Fax to: (614) 752 – 6381

The Bureau of Civil Rights (BCR) staff is available to offer assistance with writing and filling your complaint(s). You can call BCR at (614) 644-2703 or Toll Free 1-866-227-6353, TTY (614) 995-9961 or Toll Free 1-866-221-6700.