

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COOPERATE AND RIGHT TO CLAIM GOOD CAUSE FOR REFUSAL TO COOPERATE IN CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

BENEFITS OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Your cooperation in the child support enforcement process may be of value to you and your child because it might result in the following benefits.

- Finding the **non custodial parent**;
- Legally establishing your child's paternity;
- The possibility that support payments might be secured and might be higher than your welfare grant; **and**
- The possibility that you and your children may obtain rights to future social security, veteran's, or other government benefits.

WHAT IS MEANT BY COOPERATION?

The law requires you to cooperate with the social services and child support agencies to get any support owed to you and any of the children for whom you want *Work First Family Assistance*, unless you have good cause for not cooperating.

In cooperating with the social services or child support agency, you may be asked to do one or more of the following things.

- Name the parent of any child applying for or receiving *Work First Family Assistance* and give information you have to help find the parent;
- Help determine legally who the father is if your child was born out-of-wedlock;
- Give help to obtain money owed to you or the children receiving *Work First Family Assistance*; **and**
- Report to the State any money which is given directly to you by the absent parent and/or absent spouse.

You may be required to come to the social services office, child support office, or court to sign papers or give necessary information.

ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS

- Any child support paid or owed to you due to a court order must be paid to Child Support Enforcement.
- The child support paid to Child Support Enforcement will be used to repay the *Work First Family Assistance* benefits you have received.

WHAT IS MEANT BY GOOD CAUSE?

You may have good cause not to cooperate in the State's efforts to collect child support. You may be excused from cooperating if you believe that cooperation would not be in the best interest of your child and if you can provide evidence to support this claim.

IF YOU DO NOT COOPERATE AND YOU DO NOT HAVE GOOD CAUSE

- You will be ineligible for Medicaid. (Your children will still receive Medicaid, if eligible.)
- Your family's *Work First Family Assistance* will **be terminated for at least one month or until you cooperate, whichever is longer. You will not receive Medicaid, unless you are pregnant. Your children will continue to receive Medicaid.**

HOW AND WHEN YOU MAY CLAIM GOOD CAUSE

- If you want to claim good cause, you must tell a worker that you think you have good cause. You can do this at any time you believe you have good cause not to cooperate.
- If you claim "good cause," you must be given another notice. This second notice will explain the circumstances under which social services may find good cause and the type of evidence or other information social services needs to decide your claim. You may ask for this second notice to help you decide whether or not to claim good cause.