

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 with child support enforcement 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 public assistance benefits; **and**
- You and your children may obtain rights to future Social Security, Veteran's, or other government benefits.

Cooperation with Child Support Enforcement

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

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 the 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 given directly to you by the non-custodial parent /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 is used to repay the Work First Family Assistance benefits you receive.

Good Cause for Not Cooperating

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 is not in the best interest of your child and if you can provide evidence to support this claim.

The North Carolina Division of Social Services does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, or age in the admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment

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How and When You may Claim Good Cause

If you want to claim good cause, you must tell your Work First or Child Support 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 regarding child support cooperation. 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 now to help you decide whether to claim good cause.

If You Do Not Cooperate and You Do Not Have Good Cause

- You will be ineligible for Medicaid. If you are pregnant, you will be evaluated for eligibility in the Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW) program.
- Your children will still receive Medicaid, even if you become ineligible
- Your family's Work First Family Assistance will terminate for at least one month or until you cooperate, whichever is longer.

I have read this notice concerning my right to claim good cause for refusing to cooperate in Child Support Enforcement.

Signature of Applicant/Recipient

Date

I have provided the applicant/recipient with a copy of this notice

Signature of Caseworker

Date

Distribution: Original to applicant/recipient
Copy for case file