Employment Services

Responsibilities, Rights and Consent

Employment plan

I understand that a Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Diversionary Work Program (DWP) Employment Plan is required and that Family Stabilization Services (FSS) is a part of the MFIP/DWP program. I have read my plan and know that I must complete the activities in the plan to help me reach my goals.

I understand that I must:

- Tell my job counselor as soon as possible when something stops me from following through with my plan. We will meet to revise my agreement if this happens.
- Tell my job counselor about any changes to my employment status within ten (10) working days
- Tell my job counselor if I plan to move to another county
- Make satisfactory progress and follow through with the plan
- Attend all scheduled meetings.

I understand that my not making satisfactory progress and following through with my plan will result in the following actions:

**DWP Participants**

- My help with basic needs like shelter and utilities and personal needs may stop.
- My help with child care and transportation may stop.

**MFIP Participants**

- My MFIP grant may go down by 10% or more of the MFIP standard of need. *(It may close if I have six sanctions.)*
- My rent and/or utilities may be vended.
- My help with child care and transportation may go down or stop.

Dispute resolution

If you have a disagreement with your counselor, there are two ways to settle the disagreement:

- **Conciliation** means an informal meeting where you and your counselor try to reach a mutual agreement about how to settle the disagreement. The counselor’s supervisor must review the outcome of this meeting.
- **Fair Hearing** means a legal process where an appeals referee settles the disagreement. If the referee does not decide in your favor a sanction and/or loss of support services could result.

I can request Conciliation when:

- I disagree with my job counselor about whether I have good cause for not participating
- I disagree with the contents or meaning of my Employment Plan
- My job counselor sends me an MFIP Notice of Intent to Sanction (DHS-3175).

I can request a Fair Hearing when:

- I disagree with my job counselor about whether I have good cause for not participating
- I believe the action of the agency or county adversely affects me
- I do not reach agreement with my job counselor in Conciliation
- My job counselor sends me a Notice of Intent to Sanction and I do not want Conciliation
- The county sends me a Notice of Adverse Action.
Requesting dispute resolution

I can request Conciliation from the employment services agency by telephone, in writing or in person. If I get a Notice of Intent to Sanction or a 10-day notice to close my case, I must request conciliation within 10 days of the mailing date of the notice.

I can request a Fair Hearing by writing the county agency or the State Appeals Office at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, PO Box 64941, St. Paul, MN 55164-0941. I must mail the request within 30 days of getting the Notice of Adverse Action. If I cannot send the request within 30 days and have good cause, I can have up to 90 days to send the request. I have the right to bring an attorney to the fair hearing. I can also call Legal Aid for help:

- Hennepin .................. (612) 334-5970
- Ramsey .......................... (651) 222-4731
- All other Minnesota counties. ........... (888) 354-5522

Data privacy

The information in my employment services files is private. The employment services office may share this information with other people in employment services agencies, and the county or state human services department. The information may also be shared with certain others if authorized by law. For example, if I were to move or be assigned to a new worker, my worker may share information from my file with the next employment services agency, the county or the State of Minnesota.

I understand the person or agency that gets my information may pass it on to others. If my information is passed on to others, this authorization may no longer protect it. I know I can stop this authorization with written notice at any time, but that this written notice will not affect information the agency has already shared. I understand I have to complete this form to get MFIP/DWP benefits.

This authorization to use or share information in my employment services file will stop when my MFIP/DWP case is closed.

Your right to file a complaint

If you feel the county or the Minnesota Department of Human Services treated you differently in the handling of your public assistance application or benefits because of race, color, national origin, political beliefs, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, public assistance status, age or disability, including access to government buildings, you may file a complaint with your county agency or any of the following agencies.

- Minnesota Department of Human Services
  Office for Equal Opportunity
  PO Box 64997
  St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0997
  (651) 431-3040 (Voice)
  (866) 786-3945 (TTY)

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  Office for Civil Rights, Region V
  233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 240
  Chicago, IL 60601
  (312) 886-2359 (Voice)
  (312) 353-5693 (TTY)

- Minnesota Department of Human Rights
  190 East 5th Street, Suite 700
  St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
  (800) 657-3704 (Voice)
  (651) 296-1283 (TTY)

- U.S. Department of Agriculture
  Director, Office of Civil Rights
  1400 Independence Avenue SW
  Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
  (800) 795-3272 (Voice)
  (202) 720-6382 (TTY)

I have discussed this information with my Employment Services counselor. I understand my responsibilities and rights and I agree to follow them.

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<th>CAREGIVER</th>
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Attention. If you want free help translating this information, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

This information is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling your county worker. TTY users can call through Minnesota Relay at (800) 627-3529. For Speech-to-Speech, call (877) 627-3848. For additional assistance with legal rights and protections for equal access to human services programs, contact your agency’s ADA coordinator.