Cooperating with Child Support Enforcement

This does not apply during any period of time that you receive cash benefits from the JOBS Plus, State Family Pre-SSI/SSDI Program (SFPSS) or Post-TANF Program; when you are a two-parent family; or when you are receiving Employment Payments.

Why Child Support Enforcement?
Your cooperation in getting child support can benefit you and the child in the following ways:

• We can help find the non-custodial parent(s).
• We can help prove who the child’s legal father is.
• The support may be more than Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) cash benefits.
• The support may continue after TANF benefits end.
• If you have custody of a child not your own, you could receive child support from the non-custodial parent(s) for that child.

What is cooperation?
The law says you must help the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Division of Child Support (DCS) get any child support from the non-custodial parent(s). You must do one or more of the following unless you have "good cause" not to cooperate:

• Name the parent(s) of the child applying for or receiving benefits, and give information to help find the parent(s).
• Help determine who the father is if paternity has not been legally established.
• Help get money owed to you or the child receiving TANF benefits.
• Pay DHS any money you get directly from the non-custodial parent(s). You or the child will keep getting your full TANF benefits.
• You may have to come to a DHS, DCS, District Attorney office or court to sign papers or give information.

I have read the front and back sides of this form and received a copy of it. I understand my rights and responsibilities concerning child support enforcement.

Full legal signature of applicant

Date
What if I want to cooperate but have concerns for my family's safety or the safety of the child in my care?
The safety of the family is a primary concern of the Child Support Program. They have two safety options to help ensure that the safety needs of at-risk families are met. These options are "Nondisclosure of Information based on a Claim of Risk" and "Good Cause." To learn more about these options, ask for a Safety Packet (DHS 8660) or contact DCS or your DHS worker.

What if I have a good reason to not cooperate?
You may have a good reason not to help the Child Support Program to establish paternity or collect child support. We call this "good cause." You may have good cause if you think cooperating with DCS could be harmful to you or the child.

What if I don't cooperate and I don't have good cause?
The cash benefits for your family will be cut progressively. This means you will get less and less cash each month for the first three months of noncooperation. For the fourth and following months, there will be no cash benefits for your whole family.

How and when may I claim good cause?
If you want to claim good cause, you must tell your worker. You can do this at any time you think you have good cause. If you want to claim good cause or learn more about the other safety options, ask your case manager for a safety packet (DHS 8660). The safety packet explains more about the two safety options listed above.

Our discrimination policy
The Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) do not discriminate against anyone. This means that DHS|OHA will help all who qualify and will not treat anyone differently because of age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, political beliefs, disability or sexual orientation.