

**441—95.19(252B) Cooperation of public assistance recipients in establishing and obtaining support.** If a person who is a recipient of FIP or Medicaid is required to cooperate with the child support recovery unit in establishing paternity; in establishing, modifying, or enforcing child or medical support; or in enforcing spousal support, the following shall apply:

**95.19(1) Cooperation defined.** The person shall cooperate in good faith in obtaining support for persons whose needs are included in the assistance grant or Medicaid household, except when good cause or other exception as defined in 441—Chapter 41 or 441—Chapter 75 for refusal to cooperate, is established.

*a.* The person shall cooperate in the following areas:

- (1) Identifying and locating the parent of the child for whom assistance or Medicaid is claimed.
- (2) Establishing the paternity of a child born out of wedlock for whom assistance or Medicaid is claimed.
- (3) Obtaining support payments for the person and the child for whom assistance is claimed, and obtaining medical support for the person and child for whom Medicaid is claimed.

*b.* Cooperation is defined as including the following actions by the person if the action is requested by the child support recovery unit:

- (1) Providing the name of the noncustodial parent and additional necessary information.
- (2) Appearing at the child support recovery unit to provide verbal or written information or documentary evidence known to, possessed by, or reasonably obtained by the person that is relevant to achieving the objectives of the child support recovery program.
- (3) Appearing at judicial or other hearings, proceedings or interviews.
- (4) Providing information or attesting to the lack of information, under penalty of perjury.
- (5) If the paternity of the child has not been legally established, submitting to blood or genetic tests pursuant to a judicial or administrative order. The person may be requested to sign a voluntary affidavit of paternity after being given notice of the rights and consequences of signing such an affidavit as required by the statute in Iowa Code section 252A.3A. However, the person shall not be required to sign an affidavit or otherwise relinquish the right to blood or genetic tests.

*c.* The person shall cooperate with the child support recovery unit to the extent of supplying all known information and documents pertaining to the location of the noncustodial parent and taking action as may be necessary to secure or enforce a support obligation or establish paternity or to secure medical support. This includes completing and signing Form 470-3877, if requested, as well as documents determined to be necessary by the state's attorney for any relevant judicial or administrative process.

**95.19(2) Failure to cooperate.** The local child support recovery unit shall make the determination of whether or not a person has cooperated with the unit. The child support recovery unit shall promptly send notice of a determination of noncooperation to the person on Form 470-3400 and notify the FIP and Medicaid programs, as appropriate, of the noncooperation determination and the reason for the determination. The FIP and Medicaid programs shall take appropriate sanctioning actions as provided in statute and rules.

**95.19(3) Good cause or other exception.**

*a.* A person who is a recipient of FIP assistance may claim a good cause or other exception for not cooperating, taking into consideration the best interests of the child as provided in 441—Chapter 41.

*b.* A person who is a recipient of Medicaid may claim a good cause or other exception for not cooperating, taking into consideration the best interests of the child as provided in 441—Chapter 75.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 252B.3.

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