## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §9-9-9

## §9-9-9. Personal responsibility contract.

- (a)(1) Every eligible adult beneficiary and work eligible individual shall participate in a program orientation, family assessments and in the development, and subsequent revisions, of a personal responsibility contract. The contract shall be defined based on the program time limits, support services available, work requirements and family assessments.
- (2) The participant's contract shall include the following requirements:
- (A) That the participant develop and maintain, with the appropriate health care provider, a schedule of preventive care for his or her dependent child or children, including routine examinations and immunizations;
- (B) Assurance of school attendance for school-age children under his or her care;
- (C) Assurance of properly supervised child care, including after-school care;
- (D) Establishment of paternity or active pursuit of child support, or both, if applicable and if considered necessary; and
- (E) Nutrition or other counseling, parenting or family-planning classes.
- (3) If the participant is a teenage parent, he or she may work, but the contract shall include the requirements that the participant:
- (A) Remain in an educational activity to complete high school, obtain a general equivalency diploma or obtain vocational training and make satisfactory scholastic progress;
- (B) Attend parenting classes or participate in a mentorship program, or both, if appropriate; and
- (C) Live at home with his or her parent or guardian or in some other adult-supervised arrangements if he or she is an unemancipated minor.
- (4) If the participant is under the age of twenty years and does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent, the contract shall include requirements to participate in mandatory education or training which, if the participant is unemployed, may include a return to high school, with satisfactory scholastic progress required.
- (b) In order to receive cash assistance, the participant shall enter into a personal responsibility contract. If the participant refuses to sign the personal responsibility contract, the participant and family members are ineligible to receive cash assistance: Provided, That a participant who alleges that the terms of a personal responsibility contract are

inappropriate based on his or her individual circumstances may request and shall be provided a fair and impartial hearing in accordance with administrative procedures established by the department and due process of law. A participant who signs a personal responsibility contract or complies with a personal responsibility contract does not waive his or her right to request and receive a hearing under this subsection.

(c) Personal responsibility contracts shall be drafted by the department on a case-by-case basis; take into consideration the individual circumstances of each beneficiary; reviewed and reevaluated periodically, but not less than on an annual basis; and, in the discretion of the department, amended on a periodic basis.