



RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

For the Cash Aid and CalFresh Programs, and/or Medi-Cal/34-County Medical Services Program (CMSP)

These pages give you your rights and responsibilities and other important information. The county needs your facts to see if you are eligible for cash aid, CalFresh benefits, and/or Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP and to figure how much you will get if you are eligible. If you need more information or have questions, ask your worker.

Cash Aid includes California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) and Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA).

Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP includes Full Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP benefits and Restricted Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP emergency and pregnancy related care only.

YOUR RIGHTS

1. To be treated equally without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, political affiliation, marital status, sex, disability, or age. You may file a complaint of discrimination if you feel you have been discriminated against by first speaking with your county's designated civil rights representative or by writing to the

State Civil Rights Bureau
744 P Street, MS 8-16-70
P.O. Box 944243
Sacramento, CA 94244-2430

or by calling toll free 1-866-741-6241 or for the hearing impaired TDD 1-800-688-4486.
2. To get help applying for or continuing to receive cash aid, benefits and services if you have a disability. If you need help because of a disability, tell the county.
3. To ask for help to complete your application or any other cash aid, CalFresh, or Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP form.
4. To ask for an interpreter and to have forms and notices translated if you don't speak or read English.
5. To be treated with courtesy, consideration and respect.
6. To be interviewed promptly by the county when you apply and to have your eligibility determined within 45 days for cash aid and Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP (or 90 days for Medi-Cal if a determination of disability is required) and within 30 days for CalFresh benefits.
7. To discuss your case with the county and to review your case yourself when you request to do so.
8. To be told the rules for getting cash aid right away. If we think you might be eligible, you will get an interview within one day.
9. To be told the rules for getting CalFresh benefits right away. If we think you might be eligible to get them right away, you will get an interview immediately and get CalFresh benefits within three days.
10. To get Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP as soon as possible if you have a medical emergency or are pregnant, if eligible.
11. To continue getting cash aid and Medi-Cal benefits without a break if you move from one county to another if you stay eligible.
12. To be told the rules for retroactive Medi-Cal eligibility.
13. To lower any current Share of Cost you may have by giving the county past unpaid medical bills you still owe, when you apply for Medi-Cal.
14. To choose prepaid health plan (PHP), fee-for-service coverage (if available), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), or Medi-Cal when eligible for Medi-Cal.
15. To ask to have your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC), or EBT card replaced if lost in the mail, damaged, or destroyed. The county will tell you if you are eligible.
16. To ask for extra money if your income drops or stops (cash aid only).
17. To ask for payments for clothing, housing or essential household items which are lost, damaged or otherwise unavailable due to sudden and unusual circumstances (cash aid only).
18. To ask for payments for ongoing special needs like a special diet, transportation for ongoing medical care, special laundry service, telephone for the hard of hearing, high utility bills, etc. (cash aid only).
19. To be notified in writing when your application is approved, denied, or when your benefits change or stop.
20. To have your records kept confidential by the county and state, unless you are getting cash aid or CalFresh benefits and there is a felony arrest warrant issued for you, or as otherwise provided by law.
21. To talk with someone from the county or file a formal complaint with the state if you don't agree with an action taken by the county. You may call toll-free at 1-800-952-5253 or for the hearing impaired, TDD 1-800-952-8349.
22. To ask for a State Hearing within 90 days of the county's action for cash aid, CalFresh and Medi-Cal.
23. To ask for a State Hearing, you can write to your county or call the State toll-free telephone numbers listed in Item 21 above.
24. To be represented at a State Hearing by yourself, a household member, friend, attorney, or other person of your choice. NOTE: You may get free legal help at your local legal aid office or welfare rights group.
25. To have reasonable access to a location where you can withdraw your cash benefits with minimal or no costs.
26. To get a brochure that will tell you how to use your EBT card and how to get your cash benefits at minimal or no costs.
27. To get a list of surcharge-free ATMs and stores where you can get cash back at no cost when you make a purchase with your EBT card. You can get a list of these locations from your county worker or at www.ebt.ca.gov.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Citizenship/Immigration Status

To sign under penalty of perjury that each person applying for cash aid and CalFresh benefits is a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or has lawful immigration status. We will check the immigration status information with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to make sure the person is eligible. For CalFresh, if there are people in your home who are not applying for CalFresh benefits, you do not have to provide their citizenship or immigration status.

If you want Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, you must provide a declaration of citizenship/immigration status under penalty of perjury. If you say you are a noncitizen with lawful permanent residence (LPR) in the U.S., an amnesty alien with a valid and current I-688 or a noncitizen permanently residing under color of law (PRUCOL), your immigration status will be checked with the USCIS. The information the USCIS gets to verify the immigration status of the applicant can only be used to determine Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP eligibility, and cannot be used for immigration enforcement, unless you are committing fraud.

Fingerprint/Photo Imaging

All eligible adult household members for cash aid, and any adult applying for a child-only grant, must be fingerprint/photo imaged. If you are required to meet this rule but do not get fingerprint/photo imaged, the entire household will not get cash aid benefits. (Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 40-105.3.)

The fingerprint/photo images are confidential. We can only use them to prevent fraud or to bring a criminal case against you for welfare fraud.

Social Security Number (SSN) Rules

The SSNs will be used in a computer match to check income and resources with records from tax, welfare, employment, the Social Security Administration and other agencies. Differences may be checked out with employers, banks or others. Making false statements or failing to report all facts or situations which affect eligibility and aid payments for cash aid, CalFresh and Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP may result in repayment of benefits and/or criminal or civil action.

Cash Aid and CalFresh Benefits: You must give us the SSN for each applicant or recipient of cash aid and/or CalFresh. If you refuse to give us either a SSN or proof of application for a SSN, you will not be able to get cash aid or CalFresh benefits. For CalFresh, if there are people in your home who are not applying for CalFresh benefits, you do not have to provide their SSN. For cash aid, you must give proof of application for a SSN within 30 days of application for cash aid and give the SSN to the county when you get it. (MPP Section 40-105.2).

Each applicant for Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, who says he/she is a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, LPR in the U.S., an amnesty alien with a valid and current I-688, or PRUCOL, will be disqualified from getting Medi-Cal if he/she refuses to give either a SSN or proof of application for a SSN. Any noncitizen who does not have a SSN and who is not an amnesty alien with a valid and current I-688 or a LPR or PRUCOL, can still get restricted Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP if he/she meets all eligibility rules, including California residency.

Verification(s)

To give proof to support your eligibility. If you can't get proof, we will help you get it. You may need to sign a release for third party information or sign a sworn statement. (MPP Sections 40-105.1; 40-157.212; 40-157.213)

Cooperation

To cooperate with county, state and federal staff. For cash aid, a county worker can come to your home at an arranged time to check out your facts, including seeing each family member. You may not get benefits or your benefits may be stopped if you don't cooperate.

CASH AID AND MEDI-CAL

To apply for any benefits or income anyone is eligible to get, such as: Unemployment (UIB) or Disability benefits, Veterans benefits, Social Security or Medicare, etc.

Child/Spousal and Medical Support

To cooperate with the county and the Local Child Support Agency to:

- identify and locate any absent parent in your case;
- tell the county or the Local Child Support Agency anytime you get information about the absent parent, such as place of residence or work location;
- determine the paternity of any child in your case when needed;
- get medical support money from any absent parent and, if you get cash aid, get child support money;
- give the Local Child Support Agency any medical support money and, any child/spousal support money you get;
- tell the county about medical coverage or money for medical services paid by the absent parent.

Your cash aid will be lowered if you fail to cooperate without a good reason. (MPP Sections 40-157.212; 40-157.213).

MEDI-CAL

Benefits Identification Card (BIC)

- To sign your BIC when you get it and to use it only to get necessary health care services.
- **To never throw your BIC away** (unless we give you a new BIC). You need to keep your BIC even if you stop getting Medi-Cal. You can use the same BIC if you get cash aid or Medi-Cal again.
- To take the BIC to your medical provider when you or a family member is sick or has an appointment.
- To take the BIC to the medical provider who treated you or your family member(s) in an emergency situation as soon as possible after the emergency.

Health Care Coverage/Insurance

- To tell the county and any health care provider of any health care coverage/insurance you or a family member have.
- To keep any health insurance available to you and your family at no or reasonable cost.
- To use any prepaid health plans, health maintenance organization or health care insurance plans you have before using Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, unless the plan does not offer the medical service needed. You need to use them because Medi-Cal will not pay for any service paid for and/or provided by these medical insurance plans.
- To enroll and stay enrolled in an employment-related group health plan when Medi-Cal approves payment of plan premiums by the State of California.

YOUR REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

You must report certain information to the county. If you're not sure how to report, what to report, or what proof we need, ask your worker. If you get CalFresh benefits, your worker will tell you if you are a semi-annual or change reporting household. If you get Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, the county will tell you when you must report. (MPP Section 40-181).

CalWORKs Applicants - If any of the facts you told the county change, you must report the new facts to the county within 5 days.

HOW YOU MUST REPORT

For Cash Aid and CalFresh Semi-Annual Reporting, in addition to your annual SAWS 2 you must turn in a Semi-Annual Eligibility Report (SAR 7) by the fifth day of the month following your report month and report all required changes to the county within 10 days.

For CalFresh Change Reporting, you must report all changes within 10 days:

- by mail, telephone, or in person at the county CalFresh office; OR
- on the SAR 3 or AR 3; OR
- on a CF 377.5, CalFresh Household Change Report

For Medi-Cal, you must report all changes within 10 days AND turn in a complete Status Report by the 5th of the month when the county sends or gives it to you.

WHEN YOU MUST REPORT

For Cash Aid and CalFresh Semi-Annual Reporting

Semi-Annual Reporting (SAR) rules say that you must report certain things two times each year. The first report will be your application or redetermination/recertification (RD/RC) on your statement of facts (SAWS 2 PLUS) form. The second report will be the Semi-Annual Eligibility Report (SAR 7). The SAR 7 report is always due by the 5th day of the sixth month following your application or annual RD/RC and will be considered late if not received by the 11th day of the month. If your SAR 7 is late you will have to pay back any cash aid or CalFresh that you were not supposed to get. You will have to report gross income, as well as any changes in your gross income that you are sure will happen in the next six months, changes in the number of people in your household and information about any new household member, and any property bought or sold by people in your household. The report month will be on the top of the SAR 7 form. If you do not turn in a completed SAR 7 by the end of the first working day of the month after the month your report is due, your household's benefits will be stopped. If you turn in your complete SAR 7 at any time in the month following the month your SAR 7 is due, your household's benefits will be started again from the date you turn it in, if you are still eligible.

What you must report on the Semi-Annual Report (SAR 7):

1. **Earned Income** : All gross earned income you or anyone in your household got in the report month. This includes wages; tips; vacation pay; cash bonuses; In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS); money from self-employment or from a training program; also any

income in kind you or anyone in your household got in exchange for work, such as free rent, clothing or food.

2. **Unearned or Disability Based Income**: All other income you or anyone in your household got in the report month. This includes child/spousal support; interest or dividends; gambling/lottery winnings; insurance or legal settlements; strike benefits; cash, gifts, loans scholarships; tax refunds; any government benefits, like Social Security, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP), unemployment, worker's compensation, state disability indemnity (SDI), veterans or railroad retirement, or other private or government disability or retirement; rental income and rental assistance; free housing/utilities/clothing/food; or any other type of money you or anyone in your household got. You must also report on your SAR 7 any changes in income that you are sure will happen during the next six months. This includes earned, unearned and disability based income changes.
 3. **Property**: Any property including: motor vehicles; bank accounts; savings bonds; insurance policies; a home or land; trust; EBT cash balance, etc. that you or anyone in your household has gotten since you last reported and still has, whether it was bought, gotten through a trade or as a gift. The county will use this information to decide if your household exceeds the property limit. You must also report if you or anyone sold, traded or gave away any property since you last reported.
 4. **If You Move or Someone Moves Into or Out of Your Home**: Anyone (including newborns) who moved into your home since you last reported and is still there. You must also report anyone who moved out of your home or who has died since you last reported.
 5. **Fleeing Felons and Probation/ Parole Violators**: The name of anyone in your household who is hiding or running from the law to avoid prosecution, being taken into custody, or going to jail for a felony crime or attempted felony crime. The name of anyone in your household who has been found by a court of law to be in violation of probation or parole.
 6. **Reduced Hours of Work**: If you are between 19 and 50 and you are not caring for minor children, you must report when your hours of work drop below 20 hours a week or 80 hours a month. You must also report if you know your work hours will drop below these limits during the next six months.
- For Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, you must report when:**
1. Anyone enters or leaves a nursing home or long term care facility.
 2. Anyone applies for disability benefits, such as SSI/SSP, Social Security, Veterans, or Railroad Retirement.
 3. Anyone gets health care services that result from an accident or injury due to someone else's action or failure to act.

YOUR REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)

For Non-Assistance CalFresh Semi-Annual Reporting

If you only get CalFresh benefits you must report when:

1. Anytime that your household's total gross monthly income is more than the Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for your household size. Your IRT is 130% of the Federal Poverty level for your household size. The county will tell you your IRT.
2. Anyone who is an Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) CalFresh recipient and the number of hours they work or are in training drop to less than 20 hours a week or 80 hours a month.

For CalWORKs you must report certain changes at other times:

In certain circumstances you will be required to report things (within ten days of the change) even if it is not your "report month" such as:

1. Anytime that your family's combined gross income (both earned and unearned) is more than the Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for your family. The county will tell you your IRT. If your family only gets unearned income, you will only be required to report income on your Semi-Annual Eligibility Report (SAR 7) and your annual RD/RC (SAWS 2 PLUS).
2. Anytime that someone in your household becomes a fleeing felon or is found by a court to be in violation of probation or parole.
3. Anytime you move you must report your address change so that the county will know where to send your SAR 7 and other notices.

Reporting information voluntarily for CalWORKs and CalFresh Semi-Annual Reporting:

You may also report other information voluntarily even when it is not your "report month." Reporting information voluntarily may cause your household's benefits to go up. If the information reported causes your benefits to go up, the county will take action within ten days after you provide verification. One exception is when the increase results from adding another person to your case. In that situation, the county will take action to increase benefits the first of the month after you provide verification.

Some examples of voluntary reporting that may cause your benefits to go up include:

- Your income stops or drops.
- Someone who has little or no income moves into your home (including a newborn).
- Someone who has income moves out of your home.
- You believe that you or someone in your household is eligible for a CalWORKs Special Needs payment, such as pregnancy special needs or a qualifying special diet.

Additional examples for CalFresh only:

- A household member begins to pay court ordered child support for a child not living in the home.
- A household member is 60 or older.
- Any member who is disabled or 60 years of age or older has changes in or new medical expenses (if verified your CalFresh may change).

At anytime you can ask the county to discontinue your entire case or any individual person who has left the home or is not required to be in the assistance unit. You can also ask the county to discontinue certain benefits, such as: Medi-Cal or CalFresh. Receiving Medi-Cal/or CalFresh only will not count against your cash aid time limits.

Additional Information for CalFresh Only Households

If you receive only CalFresh benefits and you voluntarily report that someone has moved into or out of your home, the county will act on that change even if it results in a decrease to your CalFresh benefits.

Other changes for Semi-Annual Reporting:

There are other changes that will cause the county to decrease or discontinue your benefits during the period in which they happen. Here are some examples:

- An adult in the household reaches the CalWORKs 48-month time limit;
- A household member is sanctioned/penalized;
- A child reaches the age of 18 (and will not graduate from high school before the age of 19);
- Someone in your household begins receiving benefits in another household;
- An eligible child is placed in Foster Care;
- Anyone who is an Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) CalFresh recipient and the number of hours they work or are in training drop to less than 20 hours a week or 80 hours a month.

YOUR REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)

CALFRESH CHANGE REPORTING

For CalFresh Change Reporting, you must report when:

1. Your total monthly income starts, stops, or changes by more than \$50.
2. Anyone's source of income changes.
3. Anyone moves into or out of your home.
4. Anyone joins or leaves your household.
5. You move or you get a new address.
6. Your rent and utility costs **only** if you move.
7. If there is a change in the amount of any court ordered child support paid by a member of the household for a child not living in the home.
8. Anyone who is an Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) CalFresh recipient and the number of hours they work or are in training drop to less than 20 hours a week or 80 hours a month.
9. Any member of your household is avoiding or running from the law to avoid any felony prosecution, custody or confinement after conviction, or is found by a court to be in violation of probation or parole.

For CalFresh Change Reporting, you may report when:

1. Anyone's physical or mental illness begins or ends.
2. Anyone's citizenship/immigration status changes or anyone gets a letter, form or new card from the USCIS.
3. You have changes in your dependent care costs.
4. Any member who is disabled or age 60 or older has changes in or new medical expenses. If verified, your allotment can be refigured.
5. Any household member starts to pay court ordered child support for a child not living in the home.

CalWORKs Annual Reporting for Certain Child-Only Cases (AR/CO)

Most CalWORKs cases where only the children get cash aid will only have to report once each year except for a few mandatory changes that must be reported within 10 days of when they happen. These cases are called Annual Reporting/Child-Only (AR/CO) cases. The County will tell you if you have an AR/CO case.

AR/CO cases will only have to report changes at their Annual RD, with the following exceptions:

- Anytime your family's combined gross income, both earned and unearned is more than the Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for your family. The County will tell you in writing what your IRT is.
- Anytime someone moves into or out of your home. This includes newborns and children who are placed in foster care.
- Anytime you have an address change.
- Anytime that someone joins or is in your household becomes a fleeing felon or is found by a court to be in violation of probation or parole and it was not already reported.

CalWORKs AR/CO Cases Who Receive CalFresh

CalFresh households who are part of a CalWORKs AR/CO case will report semi-annually. See Pages 3 and 4 of this notice for semi-annual reporting responsibilities.

Voluntary Reporting Information for CalWORKs AR/CO cases and CalFresh Change Reporting Households

You can also report some changes voluntarily. Reporting some changes may help your cash aid go up. See page 4 of this notice for more information about voluntary reporting.

YOUR REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CASH AID ONLY

Unemployed Parent

If you are applying for cash aid as an unemployed parent, the principal earner (PE) must:

- be unemployed and not have worked in the preceding 4 weeks
- apply for and accept any unemployment insurance you are eligible to get

The PE is the parent who has the most earnings in the past 24 months.

Homeless Assistance

You may be eligible for money to help pay for temporary shelter, permanent housing or to prevent eviction. This is a once-in-a-lifetime payment unless you meet an exemption. If you have already received homeless assistance and need it again, your worker will tell you if you are eligible.

Immunizations

You must provide proof when requested by the county that:

- children under the age of 6 have received age appropriate immunizations. (MPP Sections 40-105.4; 40-105.5).

Maximum Aid Payment (MAP)

There are two levels of Maximum Aid Payment (MAP). Most families getting cash aid get the lower MAP level. Families may get the higher MAP level if each parent or caretaker in the Assistance Unit (AU):

- is disabled and getting Supplemental Security Income/ State Supplemental Payments (SSI/SSP), or In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), or State Disability Insurance (SDI), or Temporary Workers Compensation (TWC), or Temporary Disability Indemnity (TDI) benefits
- is caring for an aided child(ren) who is not their child and the caretaker does not get cash aid.

Also eligible for the higher MAP:

- a family who gets Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) if each adult meets an exception.

Maximum Family Grant (MFG) Rule

The MFG rule applies to any child born after August 31, 1997. The MFG rule says that your cash aid grant will not go up to include a child born to your family, if your family got cash aid for the 10 months in a row right before the child's birth. There are situations where the rule does not apply. Your worker will give you a copy of the MFG rules and answer your questions. Then you will sign a copy that says you understand the rules.

Proof of Facts

If you ask for cash aid within one year of the date it stopped, the county must look at your prior case file to see if it already has the proof needed to determine your eligibility when:

- you cannot get the proof, or
- there is a cost to you to get the proof, or
- processing your application would be delayed because it would take too long for you to get the proof.

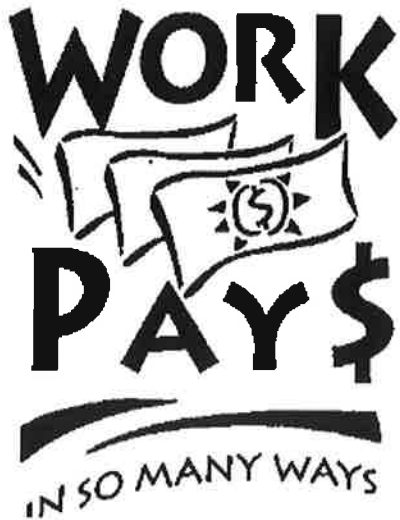
If you ask for cash aid within one year of the date it stopped AND, if the county doesn't have the proof it needs, then you will have to provide proof.

If you have new changes since you last got cash aid, the county will need new proof.

School Attendance

All children between the ages of six and 18 years of age who are getting aid must attend school.

If your child is between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age and is not attending school regularly, if he or she does not have a good reason, your grant can be lowered until he or she starts attending or meets an exemption.



Here's how **Work Pays**:

- Gives you more \$\$\$\$ to help support your family
- Builds a better life for you and your family
- Develops job skills
- Builds self-esteem
- Gives you personal satisfaction

You can work and still get cash aid:

- ✓ In most cases, when you work, your gross earnings (earnings before deductions) are not subtracted dollar for dollar from your cash aid payment. You may be eligible for **work related deductions** . When you add it up, you have more \$\$\$\$ for your family.
- ✓ When you have a **grant-based on the job training (OJT)** assignment, all or part of your cash aid payment is used by your employer to help pay your wages. You do not get work related deductions for grant based OJT wages.
- ✓ Either way, you may be eligible for child care costs that are paid to your provider.

See page 8 for facts about work and training rules, work incentives, including child care programs. Ask your worker for more facts about **Work Pays** and how **grant-based OJT** can work for you.

Remember, you can work and still get cash aid as long as you stay eligible and meet reporting rules in a timely manner.

Work and Training Rules

Your worker will tell you what cash aid and/or CalFresh work rules you need to follow before and after your application is approved. You may be required to be in work, training or education activities to keep getting your cash aid, CalFresh, or both. More than one member of a household can be required to follow cash aid and/or CalFresh work rules. If anyone becomes ineligible for not following work or training rules, other members of their household can still get cash aid or CalFresh, as long as they remain eligible. But the amount of cash aid or CalFresh they get may change.

Cash Aid Work Rules

If you get cash aid and CalFresh benefits or just get cash aid, you will need to take part in certain Welfare-to-Work activities to keep getting your cash aid and CalFresh benefits. The county will tell you how many hours a week you must take part in these activities or if you are excused from these rules. Welfare-to-Work activities include, but are not limited to, subsidized or unsubsidized work, work experience, community service, adult basic education, vocational training, and job search. Subsidized means that the county or some other funding source pays your employer for part of your wages.

The cash aid work rules also say you must:

- Sign a Welfare-to-Work plan;
- Take a suitable job that is offered to you;
- Not quit a job or reduce your earnings.

Sanctions for Not Meeting Cash Aid Work Rules

Any time you don't meet cash aid work rules and you don't have a good reason, your cash aid will be stopped until you do what you should do. After your cash aid is stopped or reduced, you can only get it back again if you meet the work rules that you had stopped meeting or if you become excused. If your cash aid is stopped, your CalFresh benefits may also be stopped or reduced.

CalFresh Work Rules for Persons Not Receiving Cash Aid

If you only get CalFresh benefits, you may need to take part in certain employment and training activities to keep getting your CalFresh benefits. These activities include job search, workfare, adult basic education, and vocational training. The county will tell you how many hours a week you must take part in these activities or if you are excused from these rules.

The CalFresh work rules also say you must:

- Answer questions about your job experience and ability to work;
- Check on a possible job we tell you about and take a suitable job that is offered to you;
- Not quit a job or reduce the number of hours you work to less than 30 hours per week.

CalFresh Only Penalties

If you don't meet CalFresh work rules and you don't have a good reason, your CalFresh benefits will be denied or stopped for one, three, or six months, depending on the number of times you stop meeting the rules. After your CalFresh benefits are stopped, you can only get them again at the end of the penalty or sooner if you become exempt.

Work Requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Not Receiving Cash Aid

If you only receive CalFresh benefits and you don't have minor children, there is another work rule which you also may need to meet. You do not have to meet this work rule if you are under age 18, over age 49, pregnant, or you are part of a CalFresh household with a minor child. You may be excused for other reasons that your county worker can explain. The work rule says that if you are an able-bodied adult, you must work at least 20 hours a week or 80 hours a month in paid employment, take part in a workfare project for the required number of hours, or take part in an approved training activity for at least 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month. During a period of 36 months, CalFresh benefits will stop if there are three months in which you do not meet the work rule. If you stop meeting the work rule a second time for reasons such as being laid off, you may be able to get CalFresh benefits for three months in a row without having to meet the rule. After that you can only get CalFresh benefits if you meet the work rule or get excused.

CalWORKs Income Disregards

The total amount of cash aid your family receives is based on your family size and any other income you may have. The law allows for some income to be disregarded when the total amount of cash aid you will receive is calculated.

- If your family gets more than \$225 a month of Disability Income (DI), only the first \$225 is disregarded.
- If your family gets \$225 a month or less of DI, none of it will be counted as income and if you also have Earned Income (EI), any remaining amount of the \$225 disregard, up to \$225, will not be counted as income.
- In addition, 50 percent of any other EI will be disregarded.
- The remainder is your net countable income and is the amount that will be used to figure your cash aid.

Treatment of Self-Employment

If you are self-employed, you will have a choice of figuring your business expenses based on a standard deduction of 40 percent of gross income or using actual business expenses. Once you choose a method of figuring your self-employed net income, you can only change that way of figuring expenses at redetermination or every six months whichever happens sooner.

CalWORKs Child Care Program

Child care benefits are available to recipients who need child care to work or participate in county-approved welfare-to-work activities such as attending education or job training programs.

California Department of Education (CDE) Child Care

Child care benefits are also available from CDE. Contact your local Resource and Referral Agency for more information.

Transitional Medi-Cal (TMC)

You may get Medi-Cal for up to 12 months if you go off cash aid because you are working. Your family must have gotten cash aid for at least three of the last six months before cash aid stopped. To get more than six months of TMC, your income must be under certain limits and you must meet TMC reporting rules.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CASH AID AND CALFRESH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING (SAR) HOUSEHOLDS

Budgeting Rules

The amount of cash aid and/or CalFresh benefits you can get depends on your income and allowable expenses. You will get a Semi-Annual Eligibility Report (SAR 7) to fill out six months after your application and after every annual redetermination/recertification (RD/RC). On the SAR 7, you will need to report what income and expenses you had in the report month and any known changes you will have in the six months after you turn in your report. The report month will be on the top of your SAR 7. The income and expenses you have in the report month and any known changes will be used to figure the amount of cash aid and/or CalFresh benefits you can get for those six months. Information that you put on the SAR 7 about the report month will be used for the next six months if you don't expect your income or expenses to change.

For example, if you turn in a SAR 7 in March, you will report what income you had in February. You will also report any income changes you expect to have in April, May, June, July, August and September. If the income from February will stay the same, your cash aid and/or CalFresh benefits for April, May, June, July, August and September will be figured using that same income and expenses for each of those months. If your income and expenses will change, your worker will use the new income amounts you'll get in those months to figure your cash aid and/or CalFresh benefit amount for each month of the semi-annual period. This method is called prospective budgeting.

CASH AID ANNUAL REPORTING (AR) CASES AND CALFRESH CHANGE REPORTING HOUSEHOLDS WITH A CALWORKS AR CASE

Budgeting Rules

Annual Reporting (AR) households will also use prospective budgeting except you will not have a regular report form like the SAR 7 for SAR households. AR households will report on their annual RD/RC forms any income, expenses and property they have and any changes they are sure will happen in the next 12 months. The information you provide will be used to figure your cash aid and CalFresh benefits for the next 12 months. There are some things that you will have to report within 10 days of when they happen. The mandatory reporting rules for AR cases and CalFresh change reporting households with an AR case are on page 5 of this form.

Property Limit

CalWORKs:

There is a \$2250 limit on the value of the property (e.g. bank accounts, stocks, etc.) that your family can own and be eligible to receive CalWORKs benefits. If someone in your family is at least 60 years of age or disabled the limit is \$3250. Your residence and furniture are not part of the limit. You can own a vehicle (for example a car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc.) as long as what it's worth minus what you owe is less than \$9,500. If it was given to you as a gift, a donation, or a family member transferred it to you, we do not count it. You will be asked to give the County proof from the Department of Motor Vehicles that it was a gift, donation or transfer from a family member. The vehicle will not count if used by your family for certain special reasons. Ask your worker what those reasons are. Your worker can explain to you how to figure the value of any vehicle.

CalFresh:

For recipients who get both cash aid and CalFresh benefits the CalWORKs property limits (above) will apply. If you only get CalFresh benefits, the property limit for households without an elderly or disabled member is \$2250. The property limit for households with at least one member who is age 60 or older or disabled is \$3250.

The property limits may not apply if your household's gross income is not more than the CalFresh Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) for your household size. Your CalFresh IRT is 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Limit for your household size. The county will tell you the amount of your household's IRT.

CASH AID ONLY

48-Month Time Limit

As of July 1, 2011 a parent or caretaker relative is not eligible for cash aid when he/she has received cash aid for a total of 48 months. All cash aid received from CalWORKs and/or cash aid received from Tribal TANF or any other state counts toward the 48-month total. Only cash aid received on or after January 1, 1998 counts toward the 48-month total. There are exceptions to this time limit and the limit does not apply to children.

Resources/Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)

Any balance remaining in the EBT account at the end of the month will be considered an available resource and could make your household ineligible for cash aid if your total countable resources are more than the allowable resource limits.

Transfer of Assets Rule

Recipients can sell, exchange or change the form of their property holdings, if they get fair market value for the property (asset). If they do not get fair market value for the asset, the family will get a period of ineligibility. The period of ineligibility is figured by subtracting the amount received from the fair market value of the asset and then dividing that amount by the need standard for the family. The amount is rounded down to the next lower whole number.

CALFRESH ONLY

Utility Allowances

You will be allowed a Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) deduction if you have heating and cooling costs. If you have utility costs other than heating or cooling, such as water, sewer and garbage, you will be given a Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) deduction. If you only have a telephone cost, you will be given a Telephone Utility Allowance (TUA) deduction. The SUA, LUA and TUA are used to reduce your income, which helps you get more benefits.

MEDI-CAL/34-COUNTY CMSP ONLY

Spending Down Excess Property

- If you get or apply for Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP Only and you have more property than the rules allow, you may lower it by the last day of any month, including the month of application. For Medi-Cal you may spend your excess property in any manner you want. But you may not be eligible for nursing facility level of care for a period of time if you sell or give away any property for less than its worth, and you apply for or receive Medi-Cal nursing facility level of care within 30 months of the transfer.
- You may not be eligible for 34-County CMSP if you sell or give away any property for less than it is worth.

Resources And Property

- All Medi-Cal benefits received after age 55 are subject to recovery from a deceased Medi-Cal recipient's estate. However, recovery may not exceed the value of the estate. Recovery may not occur if the beneficiary is survived by a spouse. The state may not claim the proportionate share of an estate left to a minor child or a totally disabled adult child. In addition if recovery would cause an undue hardship for any other heirs and that hardship can be demonstrated, recovery may be waived in full or in part.
- If you are institutionalized and your home or former home is not exempt, the state may record a lien against your property to repay the cost of medical care covered by Medi-Cal.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program:

The WIC Program is only for pregnant and breast feeding women, infants and children under age 5, who are at medical-nutritional risk. For more facts about WIC, call your local county health department or the phone number for "WIC" in the telephone book.

Voter Registration: If you want to register to vote, ask your worker to send you a registration form. If you need help filling it out, ask your worker. You can mail the form yourself. Your eligibility for aid will not be affected whether or not you register. Your worker will not tell you how to vote.

PENALTY WARNINGS

Disqualification Penalties Cash Aid and CalFresh

Disqualification penalties start after a state hearing or court of law finds that the individual has committed an Intentional

Program Violation (IPV). Also, anyone who is accused of committing an IPV may agree to be disqualified by signing an Administrative Disqualification Consent Agreement or an Disqualification Hearing Waiver. Anyone who signs one of these documents gives up any hearing rights and accepts responsibility to repay any cash aid overpayment and/or CalFresh overissuance.

Program Rules and Penalties

I understand I am committing an intentional program violation which may also be a crime, if I give false or wrong information, or if I do not give all the information on purpose to try to get benefits (CalFresh, cash aid and Medi-Cal) that I am not eligible to get, or to help someone else get benefits that they are not eligible for, or if I misuse my benefits (this is called trafficking). If I do this on purpose and get more than \$950 in benefits I was not eligible for, I can be charged with a felony.

In addition, I understand I must pay back any benefits I get that I was not eligible for or that I misused.

Program Violations

For CalFresh: I understand I may have committed an intentional program violation if I do any of the following:

- Use electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards that belong to someone else or let someone else use my card
- Give false information about who I am or where I live
- Try to get dual benefits, for example, apply in two or more different counties or states at the same time
- Submit false documents for children or adult household members who are not eligible or who do not exist
- Violate conditions of my probation or parole
- Flee after a felony conviction
- Trade, buy, sell, steal or give away CalFresh benefits or EBT cards, or attempt to trade, buy, sell, steal or give away CalFresh benefits or EBT cards
- Trade CalFresh benefits, or attempt to trade CalFresh benefits for: cash; firearms; non-eligible goods, tobacco, explosives, ammunition, controlled substances such as drugs or alcohol
- Purchase (buy) a product with CalFresh benefits that has a return deposit, intentionally (on purpose) throw away the contents and return the container for the deposit amount, or attempt to return the container for the deposit amount
- Buy a product with CalFresh benefits and intentionally resell it for cash or anything other than eligible food

Penalties

I may lose CalFresh benefits:

- For one year for the first offense, two years for the second offense or forever
- Be fined up to \$250,000, imprisoned (be sent to jail/prison) up to 20 years or both

For cash aid: I understand I may have committed an intentional program violation and I may lose benefits if I do any of the following:

- Give false information about who I am or where I live
- Try to get dual benefits, for example, apply in two or more different counties or states at the same time
- Submit false documents for children or adult household members who are not eligible or who do not exist
- Violate conditions of my probation or parole
- Flee after a felony conviction

I may lose cash aid benefits:

- For six months, one year, two years, four years, five years or forever
- And be fined up to \$10,000 and/or sent to jail/prison for up to five years

APPLICANT/RECIPIENT CERTIFICATION

- I understand that one of the intended purposes for the cash aid is to help meet the basic needs of my family, including housing, food, clothing.
- I understand my rights and responsibilities and agree to comply with my responsibilities.
- I also understand the penalties for giving incomplete or wrong facts, or for failing to report facts or situations that may affect my eligibility or benefit level for cash aid or CalFresh, and/or my Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP share of cost.
- I certify I was given a copy of The Rights, Responsibilities, and Other Important Information (SAWS 2A).

• I also certify that, if I applied for or get cash aid, I got a copy of the following:

- Welfare to Work Informing Notice (WTW 5)

(APPLICANT/RECIPIENT'S INITIALS)

- I also certify that if I applied for Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP, I got a copy of the MC 219 /CMSP 219 and its contents were explained to me.

ELIGIBILITY WORKER'S CERTIFICATION

I certify that the applicant/recipient appears to understand:

- his/her rights and responsibilities and
- the penalties for giving incomplete or wrong facts, or for failing to report facts or situations that may affect his/her eligibility or benefit level for cash aid or CalFresh, and/or share of cost for Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP

I also certify that the applicant/recipient was given a copy of:

- The Rights, Responsibilities, and Other Important Information (SAWS 2A SAR)

• For cash aid:

- Welfare to Work Informing Notice (WTW 5)

- For Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP: the MC 219/CMSP 219 and that its contents were explained to him/her.

Signature (Parent or Caretaker Relative, CalFresh Household Member or Authorized Representative, Medi-Cal/34-County CMSP Applicant/Beneficiary)		Date
Signature (Other Parent Living in the Home, Registered Domestic Partner)	Witness, if You Signed With An "X"	Date
Eligibility Worker's Signature	Eligibility Worker's Number	Date