

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



August 16, 2016

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 16-64

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

[x] State Law Change

- [] Federal Law or Regulation Change
- [] Court Order
- [] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- [] Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS ALL COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS ALL CONSORTIA PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS

(CalWORKs): 1.43 PERCENT INCREASE TO THE MAXIMUM AID

PAYMENT (MAP) LEVELS

REFERENCE: WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS (W&I) CODE SECTIONS 11450, 11452,

AND 11453; AB 1603 (CHAPTER 25, STATUTES OF 2016); ALL

COUNTY LETTER (ACL) No. 14-58

The purpose of this ACL is to inform the County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the 2016 CalWORKs MAP increase pursuant to the passage of AB 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016) which was signed by the Governor on June 27, 2016. This letter includes instructions to be used in the implementation of the 1.43 percent MAP increase. The CalWORKs MAP increase takes effect on October 1, 2016. This policy change must be automated into the Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) by the effective date. If the MAP increase cannot be automated by the effective date, the SAWS must provide CWDs a temporary workaround to ensure that CalWORKs recipients receive the MAP increase no later than their date of issuance in the month of October. CalWORKs and CalFresh recipients must be notified of changes to their CalWORKs grant and the associated impact of the household's CalFresh benefits no later than September 20, 2016.

The grant increase applies to all CalWORKs cases, regardless of whether the Assistance Unit (AU) lives in Region One or Region Two and regardless of the AUs Exempt or Non-Exempt status. CWDs are to treat the grant increase as a mandatory

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county-initiated mid-period action for Semi Annual Reporting (SAR) and Annual Reporting/Child Only (AR/CO) cases.

INFORMING CalWORKs RECIPIENTS

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has provided the attached mass mailer notice (TEMP 2250) for CWDs to send to all CalWORKs recipients that will inform them of the change in state law that increases MAP levels effective October 1, 2016, and the potential decrease to the household's CalFresh benefits as a result of the increase to their income. CWDs must begin sending the mailer to all CalWORKs recipients as soon as administratively possible but no later than September 15, 2016. As stated above, CWDs must also send the attached adequate notice of action (NOA) (TM44-315I) to CalWORKs recipients that will provide information specific to their AU's cash aid amount. The CDSS strongly encourages CWDs to also provide a copy of the TEMP 2250 to all new CalWORKs applicants who apply for aid starting in August 2016 through September 2016, to ensure that they are informed about the October 1, 2016 grant increase.

INCOME REPORTING THRESHOLD (IRT)

As a reminder, CWDs must inform recipients of their new IRT anytime it changes. Some recipients' IRTs may change when the MAP increases. CWDs must send those CalWORKs AUs a new SAR 2, AR 2 or other appropriate written notification the CWD uses to inform them of their new IRT. The CDSS will be updating the IRT charts in the near future. As a reminder, per ACL 15-75 CWDs are to use the current IRT until the IRT figures are updated.

FORMS AND NOTICES OF ACTION (NOA)

<u>TEMP 2250 (7/16) – State Law Changes the Maximum Aid Payment Levels for Cash Aid Recipients</u> – This form was created for CWDs to send to all CalWORKs AUs to inform them of the change to the MAP. This is a required form with no substitutes permitted.

TM44-315I (8/16) – NOA message – 1.43 Percent Grant Increase/Law Change – This NOA message was created to send to cash assistance AUs when their grant will increase due to the MAP increase. Instructions for use of the NOA message are included on the TM44-315I. This message is required with no substitutes permitted to the language. CWDs may fill in case specific information as instructed.

Required Form - No Substitutes Permitted

Forms in this category are required forms that the CWD may not modify or restructure. However, overprinting or reformatting under the conditions outlined in Operations Manual Section 23.400.211, Overprinting Required Forms and Section 23-400.212, Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Modifications, is permitted.

CAMERA READY COPIES AND TRANSLATIONS

For camera-ready copies in English, contact the Forms Management Unit at fmudss@dss.ca.gov. If your office has internet access you may obtain these forms from the CDSS webpage at:

http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/PG167.htm.

When all translations are completed per MPP Section 21-115.2, including Spanish forms, they are posted on an on-going basis on the CDSS webpage. Copies of the translated forms can be obtained at:

http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_274.htm

For questions on translated materials, please contact Language Services at (916) 651-8876. Until translations are available, recipients who have elected to receive materials in languages other than English should be sent the English version of the form or notice along with the GEN 1365-Notice of Language Services and a local contact number.

CWDs shall ensure that effective bilingual services are provided. This requirement may be met through utilization of paid interpreters, qualified bilingual employees, and qualified employees of other agencies or community resources. These services shall be provided free of charge to the applicant/recipient. In the event that CDSS does not provide translations of a form, it is the CWD's responsibility to provide translation services if an applicant or recipient requests them. More information regarding provisions for services to applicants and recipients who are non-English speaking or who have disabilities can be found in MPP Section 21-115.

This ACL and other CDSS Letters and Notices are available on the internet at: http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/default.htm.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your CalWORKs County Consultant at (916) 654-1322.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed by:

TODD R. BLAND Deputy Director Welfare to Work Division

Attachments

CalWORKs Payment Standards Chart Effective October 1, 2016

These charts reflect a 1.43 percent increase to the MAP levels as a result of Assembly Bill 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016)

Region 1

	Maximum Aid	Maximum Aid	
Assistance	Payment	Payment	
Unit Size	Exempt	Non-Exempt	
1	\$392	\$355	
2	\$645	\$577	
3	\$799	\$714	
4	\$949	\$852	
5	\$1,080	\$968	
6	\$1,214	\$1,087	
7	\$1,334	\$1,195	
8	\$1,454	\$1,301	
9	\$1,571	\$1,407	
10 or more	\$1,689	\$1,511	

Region 2

Assistance	Maximum Aid	Maximum Aid
	Payment	Payment
Unit Size	Exempt	Non-Exempt
1	\$374	\$336
2	\$616	\$549
3	\$762	\$680
4	\$904	\$810
5	\$1,031	\$922
6	\$1,157	\$1,035
7	\$1,272	\$1,136
8	\$1,385	\$1,239
9	\$1,498	\$1,340
10 or more	\$1,610	\$1,438

Region 1 Counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Monterey, Napa, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma and Ventura.

Region 2 Counties: Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yolo and Yuba.

For more information on <u>CalWORKs historical MAP levels</u>, please refer to the CDSS website at: http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/res/pdf/calreports/MAP-MBSAC.pdf

State Law Changes Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) Levels for Cash Aid Recipients

As of October 1, 2016, the MAP levels for all cash aid families will be increased by 1.43 percent.

You will get a Notice of Action (NOA) in September showing your new aid amount starting October 1.

CalFresh Changes:

Most families get less CalFresh benefits when they get more cash aid. You will get a separate notice if your CalFresh benefits will be changing.

NEW MAP TABLES:

New MAP table for Region 1, Exempt

Person(s) on aid	Old MAP	New MAP	Increase in MAP
1	\$387	\$392	\$5
2	\$636	\$645	\$9
3	\$788	\$799	\$11
4	\$936	\$949	\$13
5	\$1,065	\$1,080	\$15
6	\$1,197	\$1,214	\$17
7	\$1,315	\$1,334	\$19
8	\$1,434	\$1,454	\$20
9	\$1,549	\$1,571	\$22
10 or more	\$1,665	\$1,689	\$24

New MAP table for Region 1, Non-Exempt

Person(s) on aid	Old MAP	New MAP	Increase in MAP
1	\$350	\$355	\$5
2	\$569	\$577	\$8
3	\$704	\$714	\$10
4	\$840	\$852	\$12
5	\$954	\$968	\$14
6	\$1,072	\$1,087	\$15
7	\$1,178	\$1,195	\$17
8	\$1,283	\$1,301	\$18
9	\$1,387	\$1,407	\$20
10 or more	\$1,490	\$1,511	\$21

New MAP table for Region 2, Exempt

Person(s) on aid	Old MAP	New MAP	Increase in MAP
1	\$369	\$374	\$5
2	\$607	\$616	\$9
3	\$751	\$762	\$11
4	\$891	\$904	\$13
5	\$1,017	\$1,031	\$14
6	\$1,141	\$1,157	\$16
7	\$1,254	\$1,272	\$18
8	\$1,366	\$1,385	\$19
9	\$1,477	\$1,498	\$21
10 or more	\$1,587	\$1,610	\$23

New MAP table for Region 2, Non-Exempt

Person(s) on aid	Old MAP	New MAP	Increase in MAP
1	\$331	\$336	\$5
2	\$541	\$549	\$8
3	\$670	\$680	\$10
4	\$799	\$810	\$11
5	\$909	\$922	\$13
6	\$1,021	\$1,035	\$14
7	\$1,120	\$1,136	\$16
8	\$1,222	\$1,239	\$17
9	\$1,321	\$1,340	\$19
10 or more	\$1,418	\$1,438	\$20

State of California Noa Msg Doc No.: TM44-315I Page 1 of 1

Department of Social Services Action Change

Issue: One Point Four Three Percent Grant

Increase

Title: Law Change to MAP levels

Auto ID No.: Use Form No. NA 200 or NA 1239

Source Original Date 08-17-16

Issued by Revision Date

Reg Cite 44-315, AB 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016)

MESSAGE:

As of October 1, 2016 the county is changing your cash aid from \$ to \$

Here's why:

State Law has changed. The maximum aid payment has gone up by 1.43 percent.

If you think there is a mistake in the amount of your cash aid, or if you have problems other than with the new law you can ask for a state hearing. The back of this notice tells you how.

Your new cash aid amount is figured on this notice.

The county will tell you if your IRT has changed.

INSTRUCTIONS: Use to change the grant amount to apply the 1.43 percent grant increase due to AB 1603 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2016) effective October 1, 2016. For Counties who show the IRT on the NOA you may replace, "The County will tell you if you're IRT has changed" with the IRT information. Print message on new NA 200 with budget in right column for those who have no income or who are paid monthly. Use the NA 1239 for all other AUs.