

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



February 28, 1997

ALL COUNTY LETTER 97 - 11

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RELOCATION FAMILY GRANT (RFG) PAYMENT IN THE AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC) PROGRAM

**REFERENCES: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTION 11450.03
MPP SECTION 89-110.4**

This letter provides the instructions, information and materials County Welfare Departments (CWDs) will need to implement the regulations governing Relocation Family Grant (RFG). Each county shall implement RFG by April 1, 1997.

Regulations in MPP Section 89-110.4 implement the provisions of WIC Section 11450.03 which restrict the grant amount to either the California computed grant, or the Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) amount from the prior state of residence (plus California special needs, if applicable) whichever is less. RFG provides that when an Assistance Unit (AU) does not contain any member who has lived in California for at least 12 consecutive months, the AU's grant will be determined on the basis of RFG. RFG will continue to apply until at least one member of the AU has resided in California for 12 consecutive months. RFG applies prospectively to applications filed on or after the date RFG is effective in the county.

BACKGROUND

Implementation of RFG was initially effective on December 1, 1992. With the case of Green v. Anderson, filed in the Sacramento U.S. District Court on December 21, 1992, the California State Department of Social Services (CDSS) was enjoined from ongoing

implementation. The Green case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court and dismissed as not ready for decision because the Beno v. Shalala case had previously invalidated that portion of the California Work Pays Demonstration Project waiver necessary to implement RFG. The RFG regulations now in effect, state: In accordance with the Green v. Anderson court order, this provision shall not be implemented until a determination by a court of appropriate jurisdiction allows such implementation.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' certification of California's State Plan for Provision of Public Assistance Under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 dated October 9, 1996, and effective November 26, 1996, makes Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11450.03 operative and now provides CDSS with the necessary authority to proceed with implementation of RFG.

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS/COMPUTATION EXAMPLES

ATTACHMENT 1 lists a series of questions and answers that have been developed to assist CWDs in implementing RFG regulations. Examples for computing and determining grant amounts under RFG are also included.

TABLE OF MAXIMUM AID PAYMENT (MAP) LEVELS FOR ALL STATES

ATTACHMENT 2 provides a table of state maximum benefit amounts by family size. The table must be used to compare the California computed grant amount for which an applicant is eligible to the MAP the applicant would have been eligible to receive had he/she continued to live in his/her prior state of residence.

FORMS

ATTACHMENT 3 provides a complete listing of all necessary forms and their use in implementing RFG regulations. Availability of state-produced stock for the English and, where appropriate, the Spanish version of the form is indicated. Camera-ready copies of the forms may be obtained by calling the Forms Management or Language Services Bureau as indicated below in the contact portion of this letter.

ATTACHMENT 4 provides a reproducible copy of TEMP 2136 entitled Relocation Family Grant - Supplemental Statement of Facts. Stock of the TEMP 2136 may be ordered from the CDSS Warehouse upon your receipt of the Notice of Change Form (GEN 127) that is issued when stock is available. The final TEMP 2136 will be printed back to back in English and Spanish.

NOTICES OF ACTION (NOAs) and NA FORMS

ATTACHMENT 5A provides two Notices of Action (NOAs) for use as the Approval and Change actions. Copies of the NOA messages in Cambodian, Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese may be obtained upon request through the Language Services Bureau approximately 30 days from the date of this letter.

ATTACHMENT 5B provides copies of the NA forms in the Asian languages only may be obtained through the Language Services Bureau. Spanish versions of the NA forms are available through the Forms Management Bureau.

AUTOMATED TRACKING

Enhancements to MEDS for purposes of RFG online tracking are underway. Programming, however, may not be completed by the effective date. Until such time that online tracking is available, all RFG cases will need to be flagged manually. Identifying information must consist of the date the applicant moved to California, and name of the recipients prior state of residence.

CA 215 - NOTIFICATION OF INTERCOUNTY TRANSFER

When transferring an RFG case to another county, annotate on the Notification of Intercounty Transfer (CA 215) that the RFG rules apply, the name of the prior state and date that the RFG period expires.

CA 30 - AFDC BUDGET WORKSHEET

On Line C of the CA 30, the prior state's aid payment plus California's special needs payment must be figured in the comparison of the aid payment calculation.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need additional information, please contact the following staff:

Subject	Contact person	Telephone
Regulations/Implementation	Alison Garcia	(916) 654-0989 or CALNET 464-0989
Forms	Elizabeth Allred	(916) 657-3350 or CALNET 437-3350
NOAs/ NA Forms	Pam Kian	(916) 654-1801 or CALNET 464-1801
Camera-ready Copies English and Spanish	Forms Management	(916) 657-1907 or CALNET 437-1907
Translations	Language Services	(916) 654-1505 or CALNET 434-1305

Sincerely,



BRUCE WAGSTAFF
Deputy Director
Welfare Programs Division

Attachments