

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 2, 1998

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 98-50

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS

**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: COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) IN THE CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) PROGRAM

REFERENCES: ACL 97-32 WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTIONS 11452 & 11453

This letter is to inform you that current law (W&I Code Section 11452 and 11453) provides for a CalWORKs Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Fiscal Year 1998/99 effective July 1, 1998 for the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and the In-Kind Income derivative table. The new MBSAC amounts will affect only families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 1998. The increase amounts in the In-Kind Income table affects both recipients and new applicants of CalWORKs who state they earn or receive in kind any one of the need items listed on this table.

The MBSAC values will be increased by 2.84 percent effective July 1, 1998. The CalWORKs Payment Standards tables (Attachments 1A-1B) for Region 1 and Region 2 counties are provided to assist you in implementing the changes. Please note that this change is unrelated to current budget discussions regarding Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) and MAP COLA increases.

**CalWORKs Notice of Action (NOA) Language**

New NOA language is not necessary when determining initial CalWORKs eligibility for new applicants. Counties should use the regular NOA language that is currently used for approving or denying cash aid to applicants.

**Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA)**

Information regarding RCA and ECA will follow under separate cover.

**Contacts**

If you have any questions regarding CalWORKs, please contact Marilyn Delgado at (916) 653-5830 or CALNET 453-5830. Questions about RCA/ECA should be addressed to Linda Keene at (916) 654-2602 or CALNET 464-2602.

Sincerely,  
***Original Document Signed By  
Bruce Wagstaff on July 2, 1998***  
BRUCE WAGSTAFF  
Deputy Director  
Welfare to Work Division

Attachments

c: CWDA  
CSAC