



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

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

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

July 24, 2012

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 12-34

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CalFRESH COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS
(CalWORKs): COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) INCREASE TO
THE MINIMUM BASIC STANDARD OF ADEQUATE CARE (MBSAC)
LEVELS

REFERENCE: WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS (W&I) CODE SECTIONS 11450, 11452,
and 11453; ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 11-29

MBSAC INCREASE

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of an increase to the CalWORKs MBSAC levels effective July 1, 2012. W&I Code Section 11453 provides that the CalWORKs MBSAC levels shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the cost of living. This year's COLA increases the MBSAC and Income In Kind levels by 2.98 percent. The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for those families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2012.

Per W&I Code Section 11453(c) (6), beginning in Fiscal Year 2010-11, no adjustment to the maximum aid payment (MAP) levels shall be made unless otherwise specified by statute. See ACL 11-29 for the latest MAP levels.

The new CalWORKs MBSAC Payment Standards Chart for Region 1 and 2 is enclosed to assist in implementing these changes. New Income In Kind levels are included in this chart as these amounts also increased as a result of the MBSAC COLA.

REASON FOR THIS
TRANSMITTAL

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

RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY FOR DENIED APPLICATIONS

The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for those families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2012. Since the effective date for the MBSAC COLA is July 1, 2012, counties are instructed to review only previously denied applications which were denied solely for failing the applicant financial eligibility income test for July 2012 due to the higher MBSAC level.

Counties must make any necessary retroactive and all prospective changes effective as soon as administratively possible to implement the increase in the MBSAC levels and retroactively approve those applications, if appropriate. Please refer to the attachment for the MBSAC and Income In Kind levels effective July 1, 2012.

REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE (RCA) AND TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TCVAP)

These implementation instructions for the MBSAC COLA and the Income In Kind changes shall also apply to RCA and TCVAP applicants and recipients.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this ACL please contact your CalWORKs county consultant, or call the CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322. For questions regarding RCA and TCVAP, please contact Ms. Julia Ortiz-Rios in the Refugee Programs Bureau at (916) 654-2805.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

c: CWDA
CSAC

MBSAC Payment Standards
July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

Region 1 FY 2012-13

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
FY 2012-13 CNI 2.98%					
1	\$576	260	56	143	44
2	\$943	347	62	305	85
3	\$1,169	380	65	390	127
4	\$1,387	398	68	483	168
5	\$1,584	398	68	585	212
6	\$1,781	398	68	677	254
7	\$1,957	398	68	755	298
8	\$2,131	398	68	825	333
9	\$2,311	398	68	907	383
10	\$2,509	398	68	979	420
More than 10	Add \$22 for each extra person				

Region 2 FY 2012-13

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
FY 2012-13 CNI 2.98%					
1	\$546	249	56	143	44
2	\$896	330	62	305	85
3	\$1,110	361	65	390	127
4	\$1,320	380	68	483	168
5	\$1,507	380	68	585	212
6	\$1,694	380	68	677	254
7	\$1,858	380	68	755	298
8	\$2,028	380	68	825	333
9	\$2,191	380	68	907	383
10	\$2,386	380	68	979	420
More than 10	Add \$22 for each extra person				