

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



July 7, 2000

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 00-43

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
FOOD STAMP COORDINATORSSUBJECT: FOOD STAMP (FS) PROGRAM EXCLUSION OF TEMPORARY
ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) VENDOR PAYMENTS
FOR HOUSING

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

The Food Stamp Act requires that housing assistance provided through a State or local housing authority that is paid to the vendor on behalf of the household must not be considered as income to a household. Current federal regulations do not include in the list of types of excludable vendor payments TANF funds used by State or local housing authorities for housing assistance. The Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture is revising these regulations to include vendor payments made through State or local housing authorities using TANF funds.

Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) section 63-502.2(b)(2) will also be revised to reflect this correction at the State level. Since there is a legal requirement to exclude this type of TANF funded vendor payment, effective immediately, counties must implement the exclusion of this type of housing assistance as income to the FS household. These funds are only excluded if paid directly to the vendor. If received by the household, they are counted as unearned income under MPP 63-502.141.

If you have any questions, please contact Ernie Villalobos, Analyst, Food Stamp Program Bureau, Policy Implementation Unit at (916) 657-1680.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By
Bruce Wagstaff On July 7, 2000

BRUCE WAGSTAFF
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division