

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



May 5, 1994

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 94-34

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: PROVIDING NOTICE OF COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT INCREASE IN AFDC, REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE, ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE AND POSSIBLE DECREASE IN FOOD STAMPS

REFERENCES: ACL 93-34, dated May 26, 1993
 ACL 92-52, dated June 4, 1992

This is to inform you that current law (W&I Code Sections 11452 and 11453) provides for an AFDC Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Fiscal Year 1994/1995. The COLA affects only the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and the derivative tables (In-Kind Income and 185 percent of MBSAC).

Unless there is independent action in the current session of the Legislature to override the provisions of W&I Code Sections 11452 and 11453, the MBSAC values will be increased by 1.18 percent effective July 1, 1994. Attachment I provides the AFDC Payment Standard tables to assist you in implementing the changes.

Food Stamps

The following describes how to treat the AFDC COLA supplemental payment received by Food Stamp households:

- o For monthly reporting households subject to retrospective budgeting, if the CWD sends a COLA supplemental payment in the month of July for the month of July, but did not have time to prospectively budget the supplemental payment, the CWD must ~~retrospectively budget the July supplement in September.~~
 [M.S. 63-503.232(c)(5)(A)]
- o However, if the July supplement is not sent until August, it is considered a non-recurring lump sum payment for Food Stamp Program purposes, and counted as a resource in the month of August [M.S. 63-502.2(j)]. This provision applies to retrospectively budgeted households as well as prospectively budgeted households.

Notice of Action (NOA) Language

Attachments IIA and IIB are the NOAs in English and Spanish informing AFDC recipients whose cash aid changes due to the increase of the MBSAC level. Copies of the NOA in Cambodian, Chinese, Lao and Vietnamese will be sent to the county Forms Coordinators under separate cover by the Language Services Bureau.

Food Stamp Mass Change Notice Language

Attachment III is the mass change notice (TEMP NA 2) language which counties are to use to inform households that food stamps may be reduced due to the AFDC increase. Mass change requirements should be implemented to effect the July 1, 1994 change. The TEMP NA 2 may be used for the purpose of informing clients of a possible change in food stamps. A reproducible copy of the TEMP NA 2 containing English, Spanish, Cambodian, Chinese, Hmong, Lao and Vietnamese is attached. To request a camera-ready copy of the TEMP NA 2 containing all of the above mentioned languages, please contact Shirley Lu Kung at (916) 654-1277, or CALNET 464-1277.

State Budget

As you know, current State law does not provide for either an increase or a decrease to the Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) levels this fiscal year. However, the Administration's proposed budget does include a decrease to the MAP levels.

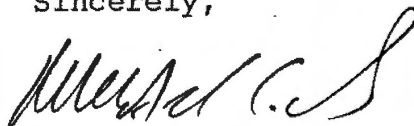
Assistance Payment Demonstration Project (APDP)
California Work Pays Demonstration Project (CWPD)
Research Counties (Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Alameda, San Joaquin)

Cases assigned to experimental status will be subject to the MBSAC COLA increase. Cases in control status will not be subject to the MBSAC COLA increase. It is recommended that the TEMP NA 2 not be sent to cases in control status. However, if this is not possible, the county may add the following language to the notice: "If you are a member of the control group of the Assistance Payments Demonstration Project (now called the California Work Pays Demonstration Project), these changes don't apply to you".

Contacts

If you have any questions, please contact the following staff:
AFDC Program: ~~Alison Garcia (916) 654-0989 or CALNET 464-0989.~~
Food Stamp Program: Suzanne McNamee (916) 657-3815 or CALNET 437-3815.
APDP/CWPD: Leslie Raderman (916) 657-2357 or CALNET 437-2357.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL C. GENEST
Deputy Director
Welfare Programs Division