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

July 22, 2005

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 05-18

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS
ALL REFUGEE COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) FOR THE MAXIMUM AID PAYMENT (MAP) AND THE MINIMUM BASIC STANDARD OF ADEQUATE CARE (MBSAC) LEVELS IN THE CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) AND REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE (RCA) PROGRAMS

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTIONS 11450 AND 11453

The purpose of this letter is to provide information regarding the adjustment to the CalWORKs and Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) cash grant and MBSAC levels for the 2005/06 state fiscal year which were due to be effective July 1, 2005.

MAP COLA

The 2005/06 State budget and related legislation suspends the CalWORKs MAP COLA for two years and the MAP levels in effect in June 2005 will remain in effect through June 30, 2007. However, since the budget and related legislation was not approved as of July 1, 2005, the month of July is exempted from the two-year COLA suspension. Therefore, county welfare departments shall issue a one-time supplement to CalWORKs and RCA recipients for July 2005 as soon as administratively possible. For CalWORKs and RCA purposes, this payment is considered a corrective underpayment and pursuant to Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) Section 44-340.6, is not considered income or a resource in the month paid nor the following month. The Food Stamp Program will treat the July CalWORKs MAP COLA as a resource, in accordance with MPP Section 63-501.111, since it is a nonrecurring one-time payment. As a reminder, in both CalWORKs and Food Stamps, property/resources are determined only once per quarter based on the QR7 information. Please refer to the attachment for MAP levels needed to calculate the July supplement. Mandatory Notice of Action language for the July supplement is attached.

MBSAC COLA

The MBSAC COLA increase was not suspended and is therefore effective July 1, 2005. The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for those families that apply for CalWORKs or RCA on or after July 1, 2005. Since the effective date for the MBSAC COLA is July 1, 2005, counties are instructed to review only previously denied applications which were denied solely for failing the applicant financial eligibility income test for July 2005 due to the lower 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 In Kind Income levels effective July 1, 2005.

Camera Ready Copies and Translations

If your office has internet access, you may obtain copies of the English forms from the CDSS webpage at: http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/On-lineFor_271.htm. For questions on the English forms, please call Forms Management Unit at (916) 657-1907. For copies of forms in other languages, including Spanish forms, please go to: http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_274.htm. Translated materials are posted on an ongoing basis as soon as they are completed. For questions on translated materials, please contact Language Services at (916) 445-6778.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your CalWORKs county consultant. For questions regarding RCA COLAs, please call Ms. Mary Wiseman, Refugee Programs Bureau, at (916) 654-2805.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

Cal Rogers for:
CHARR LEE METSKER
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

c: CWDA
CSAC

State of California
Department of Social Services

Noa Msg Doc No.: M44-340A
Action : Approval
Issue: Underpayments
Title: Underpayment Adjustment Auto ID No.:
Use Form No. : NA 290; Attach NA 281
Source :
Original Date : 04/01/00
Issued by : ACL #
Revision Date : 07/19/05
Reg Cite : 44-340.6

MESSAGE:

As of _____, the county has approved back cash aid of $____.

Here's why;

You were underpaid for the month of July 2005 because of a one-month only cost of living adjustment for July 2005 that will not continue.

Your back cash aid is figured on the next page. If you are on cash aid, this amount will not be counted as income or property in the month paid or in the next month.

( ) A deposit will be made to your EBT cash account soon.

( ) A direct deposit will be made to your bank account.

( ) A check is enclosed.

( ) A check will be sent soon

( ) You have an overpayment balance. This underpayment will be subtracted from the overpayment you owe.

If you get Food Stamps, we will count your back cash aid as a resource. You may get another notice from Food Stamps.

INSTRUCTIONS: Use to approve back cash aid to correct an underpayment. Attach Continuation page NA 281 to show the Underpayment computation.

File:
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CalWORKs PAYMENT STANDARDS
Region 1

Effective July 1, 2005 to July 31, 2005

Assistance Unit Size	Maximum Aid Payment Exempt	Maximum Aid Payment Non-Exempt	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing	80% of MAP Exempt Assistance Units	80% of MAP Non-Exempt Assistance Units
1	414	374	469	211	44	117	36	331	299
2	680	608	769	283	50	249	69	544	486
3	841	752	953	309	53	318	103	673	602
4	1,000	897	1,133	325	56	394	138	800	718
5	1,139	1,020	1,293	325	56	477	173	911	816
6	1,279	1,146	1,453	325	56	552	206	1,023	917
7	1,405	1,259	1,596	325	56	615	244	1,124	1,007
8	1,533	1,372	1,739	325	56	673	272	1,226	1,098
9	1,656	1,482	1,885	325	56	740	312	1,325	1,186
10	1,779	1,592	2,046	325	56	799	343	1,423	1,274
More than 10	1,779	1,592	Add $17 for each extra person					1,423	1,274

Effective August 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007 [1/]

Assistance Unit Size	Maximum Aid Payment Exempt /1	Maximum Aid Payment Non-Exempt /1	MBSAC /2	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing	80% of MAP Exempt Assistance Units	80% of MAP Non-Exempt Assistance Units
1	398	359	469	211	44	117	36	318	287
2	653	584	769	283	50	249	69	522	467
3	808	723	953	309	53	318	103	646	578
4	961	862	1,133	325	56	394	138	769	690
5	1,094	980	1,293	325	56	477	173	875	784
6	1,229	1,101	1,453	325	56	552	206	983	881
7	1,350	1,210	1,596	325	56	615	244	1,080	968
8	1,473	1,318	1,739	325	56	673	272	1,178	1,054
9	1,591	1,424	1,885	325	56	740	312	1,273	1,139
10	1,709	1,530	2,046	325	56	799	343	1,367	1,224
More than 10	1,709	1,530	Add $17 for each extra person					1,367	1,224

[1/] Due to the two-year cost-of-living adjustment suspension (pursuant to Chapter 78, Statutes of 2005 (SB 68)), these MAP levels will remain in effect through June 2007.

[2/] The MBSAC is not subject to the Cost-of-living adjustment suspension, and will be updated for FY 2006-07.

CalWORKs PAYMENT STANDARDS
Region 2

Effective July 1, 2005 to July 31, 2005

Assistance Unit Size	Maximum Aid Payment Exempt	Maximum Aid Payment Non-Exempt	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing	80% of MAP Exempt Assistance Units	80% of MAP Non-Exempt Assistance Units
1	393	354	445	202	44	117	36	314	283
2	648	578	732	269	50	249	69	518	462
3	802	717	906	295	53	318	103	642	574
4	953	854	1,078	309	56	394	138	762	683
5	1,088	972	1,229	309	56	477	173	870	778
6	1,220	1,092	1,382	309	56	552	206	976	874
7	1,340	1,197	1,516	309	56	615	244	1,072	958
8	1,460	1,306	1,654	309	56	673	272	1,168	1,045
9	1,580	1,411	1,788	309	56	740	312	1,264	1,129
10	1,695	1,515	1,946	309	56	799	343	1,356	1,212
More than 10	1,695	1,515	Add $17 for each extra person					1,356	1,212

Effective August 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007 [1/]

Assistance Unit Size	Maximum Aid Payment Exempt /1	Maximum Aid Payment Non-Exempt /1	MBSAC /2	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing	80% of MAP Exempt Assistance Units	80% of MAP Non-Exempt Assistance Units
1	378	340	445	202	44	117	36	302	272
2	623	555	732	269	50	249	69	498	444
3	771	689	906	295	53	318	103	617	551
4	916	821	1,078	309	56	394	138	733	657
5	1,045	934	1,229	309	56	477	173	836	747
6	1,172	1,049	1,382	309	56	552	206	938	839
7	1,288	1,150	1,516	309	56	615	244	1,030	920
8	1,403	1,255	1,654	309	56	673	272	1,122	1,004
9	1,518	1,356	1,788	309	56	740	312	1,214	1,085
10	1,629	1,456	1,946	309	56	799	343	1,303	1,165
More than 10	1,629	1,456	Add $17 for each extra person					1,303	1,165

[1/] Due to the two-year cost-of-living adjustment suspension (pursuant to Chapter 78, Statutes of 2005 (SB 68)), these MAP levels will remain in effect through June 2007.

[2/] The MBSAC is not subject to the Cost-of-living adjustment suspension, and will be updated for FY 2006-07.