CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete items 1 - 10 on the form. Use a separate form for each policy interpretation request. If additional space is needed, please use the second page. Be sure to identify the additional discussion with the appropriate number and heading. Retain a copy of the CF 24 for your records.

- Questions from counties, including county Quality Control, must be submitted by the county CalFresh Coordinator and may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility for the county, with a copy directed to the appropriate CalFresh Policy unit manager.
- Questions from Administrative Law Judges may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility to the county where the hearing took place, with a copy of the form directed to the appropriate CalFresh Bureau unit manager.

1. RESPONSE NEEDED DUE TO:
   - ☑ Policy/Regulation Interpretation
   - ☐ QC
   - ☐ Fair Hearing
   - ☐ Other:

2. REQUESTOR NAME:

3. PHONE NO.:

4. REGULATION CITE(S):
   63-504.1, 63-504.132(d)

5. DATE OF REQUEST: 9/22/15

NEED RESPONSE BY: 9/29/15

6. COUNTY/ORGANIZATION:
   Santa Barbara County

7. SUBJECT:
   Shortened Certification Period on TCF cases

8. REFERENCES: *(Include ACL/ACIN, court cases, etc. in references)*
   NOTE: All requests must have a regulation cite(s) and/or a reference(s).

9. QUESTION: (INCLUDE SCENARIO IF NEEDED FOR CLARITY):

When a case is being recertified after the TCF Period ends, is it correct to shorten the certification period?

Scenario: Worker is processing a recertification on a TCF case. Case was a CW discontinuance in 3/14. TCF Cert period was 4/14 - 8/14. Worker processed the RRR on 8/28/14 and CalWIN is giving the case an 8 month cert period based on the previous CW SAR Cycle 5 and setting the next RRR date for 4/2015.

Is it correct to give the client an 8 month cert (4/15) or should the cert period be set at 12 months which would be 8/2015?

10. REQUESTOR'S PROPOSED ANSWER:

.1 Certification Periods - The CWD shall certify each eligible household for a definite period of time within which a household shall be certified to receive benefits. At the expiration of such certification period, entitlement to food stamp benefits shall end. Under no circumstances shall benefits be continued beyond the end of a certification period without a new determination of eligibility. See Section 63-504.6 for recertification procedures. CWDs must assign the longest certification period possible based on the predictability of the household's circumstances. The first month of the certification period will be the first month for which the household is eligible to participate.
132(d) The CWD shall adjust the food stamp certification period to coincide with the end of the transitional period.
Answer: No. The county must assign the longest certification possible. If the case is not an E/D case, then the HH should be certified for 12 months.

11. STATE POLICY RESPONSE *(CFPB USE ONLY)*:

As stated in ACL 13-08 (dated January 31, 2013) and ACL 13-78 (dated September 19, 2013), per USDA, FNS waiver # 2120020CA, CWDs may shorten a household's certification period to align with the certification period for TANF or Medi-Cal.

FOR CDSS USE

DATE RECEIVED: September 24, 2015

DATE RESPONDED TO COUNTY/ALJ: September 25, 2015 JN