

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



December 23, 2004

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 04-56

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS
ALL QC PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIUM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY REPORTS OF INCOME EXCEEDING 130
PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL FOR
QUARTERLY REPORTING (QR) NON-ASSISTANCE FOOD
STAMP (NAFS) HOUSEHOLDS

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 03-18, April 29, 2003

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has clarified that it was not their intent to allow benefits to continue mid-quarter when a NAFS household, not previously receiving CalWORKs, voluntarily reports income above the gross income level. They point out that an inconsistent QR policy exists when County Welfare Departments (CWDs) discontinue a CalWORKs/food stamp household if income rises above the CalWORKs' Income Reporting Threshold (IRT), but are not required to discontinue NAFS cases that exceed the gross income level (130 percent of the Federal Poverty Level).

As a result, FNS has amended California's Food Stamp Program QR waiver approval in regard to treatment of voluntary reports of income exceeding the FSP's gross income limit for NAFS households. Initially, as stated in ACL 03-18, CWD actions on NAFS cases were only required based on reports of changes of address and accompanying shelter cost changes. The waiver amendment now adds an additional mid-quarter county-initiated action. CWDs are now required to discontinue a NAFS household mid-quarter when income above the gross income limit is voluntarily reported by the household. CWDs are instructed to implement this change immediately.

For QC purposes, all case reviews in which the eligibility worker failed to act when the non-assistance household voluntarily reported income exceeding the gross income limit will count in the dollar error rate effective immediately.

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If you have any questions about this change of policy, please contact LeAnne Torres at (916) 654-2135.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

CHARR LEE METSKER
Acting Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division