



CDSS

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DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

January 27, 2011

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 11-11

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM COORDINATORS  
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS  
ALL QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF MODIFIED CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY FOR  
CALFRESH TO ALL NON-ASSISTANCE CALFRESH (NACF)  
HOUSEHOLDS

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTION 18901.5  
(PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO AS ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 433,  
STATUTES OF 2008), ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 09-24

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to notify County Welfare Departments (CWDs) about the expansion of modified categorical eligibility (MCE) for CalFresh, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, and the impact of this expansion on policy and procedures. On February 1, 2011, MCE is expanding to all NACF households.

On July 1, 2009, California implemented an MCE program for certain existing NACF caseloads and new NACF applicants. ACL No. 09-24 required CWDs to confer MCE to CalFresh households with members under the age of 18 who would otherwise be eligible for CalFresh benefits, except for their resources, which exceeded the maximum limits. To confer MCE, a household must be in receipt of a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/Maintenance of Effort (MOE)-funded service. A household is eligible for MCE upon receipt of the TANF/MOE-funded "Family Planning – PUB 275" brochure.

It is the responsibility of CWDs to provide the PUB 275 (attached) to all otherwise eligible NACF households (including elderly/disabled NACF households) whether or not the household is resource ineligible. Alternatively, CWDs may inform these households of where the PUB 275 is available online. All otherwise eligible NACF households receiving the PUB 275, or having access to it online, will be MCE eligible.

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

Expanding MCE to all CalFresh NACF households, and simplifying the process, is expected to decrease quality control errors and increase participation in CalFresh. It may also reduce workload and case processing time for CWDs because workers will no longer need to collect or act on resource information for any NACF households. However, other programs may need to collect resource information for the purpose of determining eligibility.

### **RETROACTIVE BENEFITS**

If the CWD is unable to effect necessary changes to implement MCE for all NACF applicant households on February 1, 2011, CWDs must restore, where appropriate, lost benefits as soon as administratively feasible.

### **SYSTEMS IMPLICATIONS**

CWDs must work with their consortia representatives to ensure that their systems are capable of processing all expanded MCE cases no later than April 1, 2011.

### **QUALITY CONTROL (QC)**

No special procedures are required for these cases. QC staff will continue reviewing cases using standard review procedures.

### **FORMS/CAMERA-READY COPIES AND TRANSLATIONS**

For a camera-ready copy of English and Spanish forms, contact the Forms Management Unit at: [fmudss@dss.ca.gov](mailto:fmudss@dss.ca.gov).

If your office has internet access, you may obtain these forms from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) web page at:

[http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu\\_271.htm](http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_271.htm)

Per MPP section 21-115.2, all other translations will be posted on the CDSS website on an ongoing basis. Copies of the translated forms and publications in all other required languages can be obtained at:

[http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu\\_274.htm](http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_274.htm).

The camera-ready copies of the Spanish language version of the PUB 275 SP are currently on the CDSS website.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Tiffany Jones, Program Analyst, CalFresh Policy Bureau, at (916) 654-1905 or via e-mail at [Tiffany.Jones@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Tiffany.Jones@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

CHARR LEE METSKER  
Deputy Director  
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

## Build a Better Future for your Family

Get the benefits of family planning services, which can help you:

- Improve your ability to become self-sufficient by preventing an unplanned pregnancy.
- Plan the number and spacing of your children so you are able to meet the economic and emotional needs of your family.
- Communicate with your partner about reproductive health issues.
- Talk to your kids about safe sex and pregnancy prevention.



**Do it for yourself.  
Do it for the ones you love.**



County Stamp Box

California Family Planning Information  
and Referral Service

**1-800-942-1054**

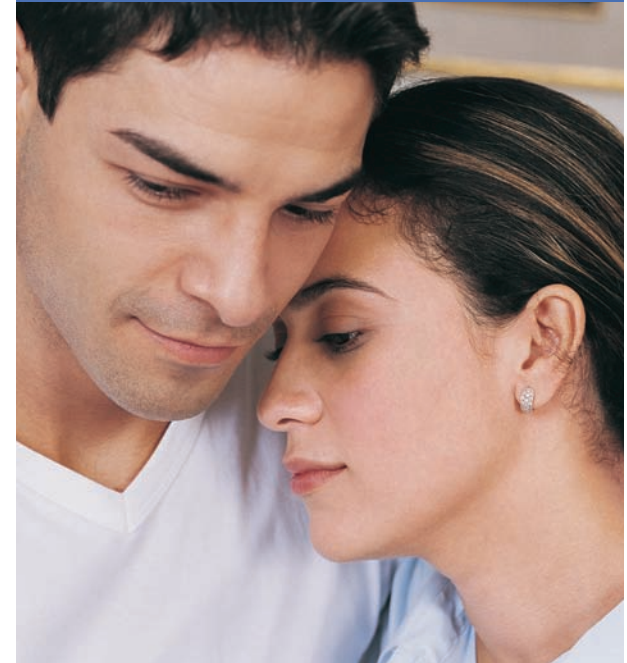


State of California  
Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Social Services

PUB 275 (04/07)



**Family Planning...**  
**Making the Commitment**  
**for a Healthy Future**



# Family Planning — For Your Family's Future

Your local family planning provider can help you:

- Find the birth control method that fits your lifestyle. There is a wide range of choices — from the pill to the ring to the shot and more.
- Get birth control supplies to help prevent an unplanned pregnancy.
- Learn about emergency contraception and whether it will be the right choice for you if you ever need it.
- Get tested and treated for sexually transmitted diseases.
- Learn how to prevent getting and spreading sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- Get screened for reproductive cancers.
- Learn how to do self-exams to check for breast cancer.
- Answer questions about all your reproductive health concerns.



These services are:

- Confidential, which means it is private between you and your doctor.
- Available for men and women, including teens.
- Inexpensive — CalWORKs clients can receive them for no- and low-cost.

Get family planning services in your community:

- From your doctor, county department of health or your health care plan.
- Look in the telephone yellow pages under “Family Planning Information.”
- Call the California Family Planning Information and Referral Service for the name, address and phone number of a family planning services provider in your area at:

**1-800-942-1054**



**Make the commitment today.**