



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

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

744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

December 31, 2013

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 13-108

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 CaWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIA MANAGERS
ALL QUALITY CONTROL COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSEMBLY BILL 191 (CHAPTER 669, STATUTES OF 2013) – CALFRESH CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDI-CAL

REFERENCE: 7 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATION PART 273.2(j)(2)(ii)(B); ASSEMBLY BILL 191 (CHAPTER 669, STATUTES OF 2013); WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE 18901.5; ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 12-62 DATED NOVEMBER 2, 2012; ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-52-13 DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to provide County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with information on the implementation of Assembly Bill (AB) 191 (Chapter 669, Statutes of 2013) effective January 1, 2014.

AB 191 requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), to the extent permitted by federal law, to design and implement a program of categorical eligibility (CE) for CalFresh, for any household that includes a member who receives, or is eligible to receive, assistance under the Medi-Cal program. AB 191 also requires the use of the maximum federal gross income limit (200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level [FPL]) allowable for conferring CE via a non-cash Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funded service (see ACL No. 12-62). Therefore, those CalFresh applicant and recipient households with income at or below 200 percent of the FPL with a household member who receives (or is eligible to receive) Medi-Cal would also be categorically eligible for CalFresh providing the household meets all other CalFresh eligibility requirements other than the CalFresh resource limits.

The CDSS is currently working with the Department of Health Care Services, the California Welfare Director's Association and the Statewide Automated Welfare System to implement an automated process for identifying and processing these households. In the interim, a workaround at the county level will be necessary. As soon as additional information is available, an updated ACL with specific implementation instructions will be issued.

As stated, the effective date of this statute is January 1, 2014. Therefore, if CWDs are not able to implement the provisions of the statute as of that date, impacted households must be tracked and provided benefits retroactive to January 1, 2014. In addition, households recertifying during this time shall not have their CE removed if their gross income is between 130 percent and at or below 200 percent and are receiving, or eligible to receive, Medi-Cal.

CalFresh households with a Medi-Cal recipient that is determined to be ineligible for CalFresh benefits effective December 31, 2013 due to gross income over 130 percent, will be discontinued and must reapply for CalFresh benefits as AB 191 is not effective until January 1, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your CalFresh county consultant or call the CalFresh Policy Bureau at (916) 654-1896.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division