



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE  
DIRECTOR

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

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

August 23, 2013

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 13-63

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
 ALL CDSS ADOPTIONS DISTRICT OFFICES  
 ALL COUNTY PLACEMENT SUPERVISORS  
 ALL ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES  
 ALL LICENSED ADOPTION AGENCIES  
 ALL PUBLIC ADOPTION AGENCIES

SUBJECT: ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) RATES

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTIONS (W&IC) 16121(a) AND (g); ALL COUNTY LETTERS (ACL) 11-74 AND 12-45

This letter is to inform counties, district offices and other interested parties of the California Necessities Index (CNI) increase to be applied to the AAP basic rate. Please refer to ACL 11-74 for the AAP basic rate methodology as stated in W&IC section 16121(a). The adjusted schedule of rates in this letter reflects the CNI increase of 2.65 % for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-2014, effective July 1, 2013. In addition, this letter will reflect the CNI increase to be applied to the Dual Agency rates, effective July 1, 2013. The negotiated AAP rate continues to be based on the child's needs and the circumstances of the family and may include the Specialized Care Increment (SCI), if eligible. The SCI rate is calculated by adding the SCI to the basic rate; therefore, recipients who receive this rate will also receive an increase due to the increase to the basic rate. The adjusted schedules of AAP basic rates stated on the following pages are to be used when determining the maximum eligible initial and subsequent AAP basic rate.

**I. AAP Basic Rates**

The 2007 Foster Family Home (FFH) rate structure is to be used for initial AAP agreements signed on or after October 1, 1992 through December 31, 2007, and the adoption finalized before May 27, 2011.

<b>2007 FFH Rates</b>					
<b>Includes 2.65% CNI Increase for State Fiscal Year 2013-2014</b>					
<b>Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>15-21</b>
2007 FFH Rate Effective July 1, 2013	\$458	\$498	\$532	\$588	\$643
<b>County/Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>15-21</b>
Los Angeles	\$458	\$498	\$539	\$588	\$643
Orange	\$458	\$498	\$532	\$676	\$676
Santa Clara	\$458	\$498	\$539	\$588	\$643

<b>County/Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>13-21</b>
Marin	\$458	\$498	\$572	\$652

The 2008 FFH rate structure is to be used for initial AAP agreements signed on or after January 1, 2008 through May 27, 2011, and the adoption finalized on or before May 27, 2011.

<b>2008 FFH Rates</b>					
<b>Includes 2.65% CNI Increase for State Fiscal Year 2013-2014</b>					
<b>Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>15-21</b>
2008 FFH Rate Effective July 1, 2013	\$481	\$522	\$559	\$617	\$675

<b>County/Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>15-21</b>
Los Angeles	\$481	\$522	\$566	\$617	\$675
Orange	\$481	\$522	\$559	\$710	\$710
Santa Clara	\$481	\$522	\$566	\$617	\$675

<b>County/Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>13-21</b>
Marin	\$493	\$522	\$602	\$684

The State-Wide rate structure, effective July 1, 2013, is to be used for initial AAP agreements signed and the adoption finalized on or after May 27, 2011.

<b>State-Wide FFH Rates</b>					
<b>Effective July 1, 2013</b>					
<b>Includes 2.65% CNI Increase for State Fiscal Year 2013-2014</b>					
<b>Age</b>	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>15-21</b>
FFH Rate Effective July 1, 2013	\$657	\$711	\$748	\$783	\$820

**II. Dual Agency Rates**

Effective July 1, 2013, the Dual Agency rates are to be increased 2.65% to reflect the CNI increase for FY 2013-2014. The Dual Agency rate will need to be adjusted to reflect the CNI increase in accordance with the below rate structure, effective July 1, 2013. The CNI increase is not applicable to the supplement to the rate. The supplement to the rate, if eligible, is added to the Dual Agency rate; therefore, recipients who receive this rate will also receive an increase due to the increase to the total Dual Agency rate.

<b>State-Wide Dual Agency Rates</b> <b>Effective July 1, 2013</b> <b>Includes 2.65% CNI Increase for State Fiscal Year 2013-2014</b>	
Age 0-3	\$967
Age 3 years and older	\$2,162

**III. County and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Adoption District Office Responsibility**

Counties and CDSS adoption district offices shall adjust monthly AAP basic rates and the Dual Agency rate to include an annual CNI increase should one occur, effective July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The adjustment must be documented by sending AAP recipients a Notice of Action (NOA) reflecting the AAP rate change. A copy of the NOA must be placed in the AAP case file for documentation purposes. To process the automatic CNI increase, the Adoption Assistance Program Agreement (AD 4320) and Payment Instructions Adoption Assistance Program (AAP 2) forms are not required to be completed by the responsible public agency. While CNI increases do not require an amended AAP agreement, all other changes to the AAP benefit continue to require an amended agreement.

**IV. INQUIRIES**

If you have, any inquiries please direct all AAP questions to the Adoptions Services Bureau, at (916) 651-8089.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

GREGORY E. ROSE  
Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division