



PAT LEARY  
ACTING DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • [www.cdss.ca.gov](http://www.cdss.ca.gov)



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

May 15, 2019

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 19-47

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS  
ALL COUNTY CONSORTIA REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO  
KIDS (CALWORKS): COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA)  
INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM BASIC STANDARDS OF  
ADEQUATE CARE (MBSAC) LEVELS

REFERENCE: [WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTIONS 11450,](#)  
[WIC 11452, AND WIC 11453; ACL No. 18-66](#)

## **MBSAC INCREASE**

The purpose of this ACL is to inform counties of an increase to the CalWORKs MBSAC levels effective July 1, 2019. The WIC Section 11453 requires CalWORKs MBSAC levels to be adjusted annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the cost of living. The Fiscal Year 2019-20 COLA increases the MBSAC and Income-In-Kind (IIC) levels by 4.15 percent. The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for those families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2019.

The new CalWORKs MBSAC Payment Standards Chart for Regions 1 and 2 is attached to this ACL to assist in implementing these changes. The new IIC levels are included in this chart as these amounts also increased as a result of the MBSAC COLA.

If a County Welfare Department's (CWD's) Statewide Automated Welfare System is unable to implement the new MBSAC level in a timely manner for applicants by July 1, 2019, the CWD must take immediate steps to review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2019, if the sole reason for denial was failure to pass the applicant financial eligibility income test due to the MBSAC or IIK amounts used.

For existing recipients, the MBSAC COLA change is a county-initiated mid-period action; therefore, the new IIK amounts should be used prospectively as soon as timely and adequate notice can be provided.

**REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE (RCA), ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE (ECA), AND TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TCVAP)**

These implementation instructions for the MBSAC COLA and the IIK changes shall also apply to RCA, ECA, and TCVAP (cash assistance and CalWORKs) applicants and recipients effective July 1, 2019.

**CONTACTS**

If you have questions or need additional information regarding this ACL, please contact the following California Department of Social Services representatives:

- CalWORKs Eligibility County Consultant (916) 654-1322
- CalFresh County Consultant (916) 651-8047
- Refugee Programs Bureau (916) 654-4356

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

KIM JOHNSON  
Deputy Director  
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division

Attachment

c: CWDA

## MBSAC Payment Standards July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Region 1 FY 2019-20 CNI 4.15%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
<b>1</b>	\$714	324	68	177	54
<b>2</b>	\$1,172	431	78	379	106
<b>3</b>	\$1,453	471	81	485	157
<b>4</b>	\$1,724	496	85	601	208
<b>5</b>	\$1,967	496	85	728	265
<b>6</b>	\$2,213	496	85	842	318
<b>7</b>	\$2,432	496	85	937	372
<b>8</b>	\$2,646	496	85	1,024	413
<b>9</b>	\$2,871	496	85	1,126	475
<b>10</b>	\$3,116	496	85	1,218	521
<b>More than 10</b>	Add \$28 for each extra person				

Region 2 FY 2019-20 CNI 4.15%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
<b>1</b>	\$678	310	68	177	54
<b>2</b>	\$1,114	410	78	379	106
<b>3</b>	\$1,379	449	81	485	157
<b>4</b>	\$1,639	471	85	601	208
<b>5</b>	\$1,874	471	85	728	265
<b>6</b>	\$2,105	471	85	842	318
<b>7</b>	\$2,307	471	85	937	372
<b>8</b>	\$2,519	471	85	1,024	413
<b>9</b>	\$2,722	471	85	1,126	475
<b>10</b>	\$2,964	471	85	1,218	521
<b>More than 10</b>	Add \$28 for each extra person				