

April 1, 2022

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 21-137E

The purpose of this errata is to revise language in All County Letter 21-137 regarding the treatment of payments from approved Guaranteed Income (GI) projects and pilots.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

April 1, 2022

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 21-137E

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIA MANAGERS
ALL QUALITY CONTROL COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: ERRATA TO ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 21-137
CALFRESH EXCLUSION OF INCOME EXCLUDED BY THE
CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO
KIDS PROGRAM

REFERENCE: [7 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS \(CFR\) 273.9\(c\)\(19\); ACL 21-137; WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(W&IC\) 18997\(c\)\(1\); W&IC 18230](#)

The purpose of this errata is to revise language in [All County Letter 21-137, released November 12, 2021](#), regarding the treatment of payments from approved Guaranteed Income (GI) projects and pilots. These revisions are due to recent clarification in policy from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

The original and revised language for the impacted section is provided below. Deletions are contained within brackets and marked with a ~~strike through~~ and additions are contained within braces and in **{bold}**.

The original language on pages four and five under the “Approved Guaranteed Income Projects and Pilots” reads:

Effective December 1, 2021, under this option, payments from CalWORKs-approved GI projects and pilots that are privately funded must also be excluded for purposes of CalFresh. Please note that this exclusion applies **only** to payments from CalWORKs-approved GI projects and pilots. Each CalWORKs-approved GI project or pilot will be identified by CDSS on an individual basis. GI project and pilot approval letters will be

posted at <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/guaranteed-income-exemption-requests>.

Because CalFresh cannot exclude income from a government source under this option, whether it is excluded by CalWORKs or not, payments received by GI project or pilot participants must come from a private source to be excluded for CalFresh purposes. If an approved GI project or pilot is both privately and publicly funded, the private funding must be sufficient to cover the cost of all payments received by CalFresh households participating in the project or pilot. This determination will be made by CDSS and communicated in the GI project and pilot approval letters referenced above.

In addition to the GI projects and pilots approved by CalWORKs as demonstration projects, certain GI projects and pilots will be excluded from CalWORKs income determinations on the basis of their receipt of California's Guaranteed Income Pilot Project funding. Under [W&IC 18997\(c\)\(1\)](#), benefits from pilots and projects receiving this funding will be excluded from CalWORKs income determinations. Therefore, GI projects and pilots receiving funding from the Guaranteed Income Pilot Project will be excluded for CalFresh purposes if CDSS determines that sufficient private funding exists to cover the cost of all payments received by CalFresh households participating in the pilot or project. Additional information about the Guaranteed Income Pilot Project will be released at a later date.

The revised language reads:

Effective December 1, 2021, under this option, payments from CalWORKs-approved GI projects and pilots that are ~~privately~~ funded **{by any amount of non-governmental funds}** must also be excluded for purposes of CalFresh. Please note that this exclusion applies **only** to payments from CalWORKs-approved GI projects and pilots. Each CalWORKs-approved GI project or pilot will be identified by CDSS on an individual basis. GI project and pilot approval letters will be posted at <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/guaranteed-income-exemption-requests>.

Because CalFresh cannot exclude income ~~[from a]~~ **{that is funded exclusively by}** government sources under this option, whether it is excluded by CalWORKs or not, payments received by GI project or pilot participants **{that are fully government-funded cannot be excluded for CalFresh purposes. However, if the payments received by GI project or pilot participants are completely non-governmentally funded or funded with a mix of governmental and non-governmental funds, they must be excluded for CalFresh purposes. If an approved GI project or pilot is funded with both governmental and non-governmental funds, the payments themselves must contain some portion of non-governmental funds to be**

excluded for CalFresh purposes. For example, if a GI project is partially funded from county funds and partially funded by a philanthropy, the GI project payments are to be excluded for CalFresh purposes as long as the philanthropic funds are not earmarked exclusively for something other than the GI project payments themselves. The ~~[must come from a private source to be excluded for CalFresh purposes. If an approved GI project or pilot is both privately and publicly funded, the private funding must be sufficient to cover the cost of all payments received by CalFresh households participating in the project or pilot. This]~~ **determination {of whether GI projects and pilots meet the requirements described here and whether the payments can be excluded for CalFresh purposes accordingly}** will be made by CDSS and communicated in the GI project and pilot approval letters referenced above.

In addition to the GI projects and pilots approved by CalWORKs as demonstration projects, certain GI projects and pilots will be excluded from CalWORKs income determinations on the basis of their receipt of California's Guaranteed Income Pilot Project funding. Under [W&IC 18997\(c\)\(1\)](#), benefits from pilots and projects receiving this funding will be excluded from CalWORKs income determinations. Therefore, GI projects and pilots receiving funding from the Guaranteed Income Pilot Project will be excluded for CalFresh purposes if CDSS determines that ~~[sufficient private funding exists to cover the cost of all payments received by CalFresh households participating in the pilot or project]~~ **{the payments that participating CalFresh households will receive are funded by any amount of non-governmental funding}**. Additional information about the Guaranteed Income Pilot Project will be released at a later date.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the CalFresh Policy Bureau at CalFreshPolicy@dss.ca.gov or (916) 651-8047.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

KATHY YANG, Acting Chief
CalFresh and Nutrition Branch
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division