

May 26, 2022

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 22-39

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform counties of an increase to the CalWORKs Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and Income In Kind (IIK) levels effective July 1, 2022.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

May 26, 2022

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 22-39

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) AND INCOME IN KIND (IIK) LEVELS

REFERENCE: [WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTIONS 11450,
WIC 11452, AND WIC 11453; ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 21-55](#)

MBSAC INCREASE

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform counties of an increase to the CalWORKs MBSAC and IIK levels effective July 1, 2022. 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 2022-23 COLA increases the MBSAC and IIK levels by 6.63 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, 2022.

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 IIK 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, 2022, the CWD must take immediate steps to review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2022, 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, 2022.

CONTACTS

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

For CalWORKs, contact the Early Engagement and Eligibility Bureau at:
CWEligibilityPolicy@dss.ca.gov.

For CalFresh, email the CalFresh Policy and Employment Bureau at:
CalFreshPolicy@dss.ca.gov.

For RCA, ECA, or TCVAP, contact the Refugee Programs Bureau at:
(916) 654-4356 or RPB@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
Deputy Director
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division

Attachment

c: CWDA

MBSAC Payment Standards July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Region 1 FY 2022-23 CNI 6.63%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
1	\$807	366	77	200	61
2	\$1,324	486	89	428	119
3	\$1,641	532	92	548	177
4	\$1,947	560	96	678	236
5	\$2,221	560	96	822	300
6	\$2,499	560	96	950	359
7	\$2,746	560	96	1,059	420
8	\$2,988	560	96	1,156	466
9	\$3,242	560	96	1,272	536
10	\$3,519	560	96	1,376	588
More than 10	Add \$32 for each extra person				

Region 2 FY 2022-23 CNI 6.63%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
1	\$766	351	77	200	61
2	\$1,257	463	89	428	119
3	\$1,557	507	92	548	177
4	\$1,851	532	96	678	236
5	\$2,117	532	96	822	300
6	\$2,377	532	96	950	359
7	\$2,605	532	96	1,059	420
8	\$2,845	532	96	1,156	466
9	\$3,074	532	96	1,272	536
10	\$3,347	532	96	1,376	588
More than 10	Add \$32 for each extra person				