

October 15, 2022

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 22-86**

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform counties participating in the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Home Visiting Program (HVP) that Senate Bill (SB) 187 (Chapter 50, Statutes of 2022) increased the material goods fund limit from \$500 to \$1,000.



**KIM JOHNSON**  
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & 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

October 15, 2022

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 22-86

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

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS  
(CALWORKS) HOME VISITING PROGRAM (HVP) MATERIAL GOODS  
FUND LIMIT INCREASE

REFERENCE: [WELFARE AND INSTITUTION CODE \(WIC\) SECTION 11330.7;](#)  
[SENATE BILL 187 \(CHAPTER 50, STATUTES OF 2022\); ALL COUNTY](#)  
[INFORMATION NOTICE \(ACIN\) NO I-4-20](#)

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform counties participating in the California and Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Home Visiting Program (HVP) that Senate Bill (SB) 187 increased the material goods fund limit from \$500 to \$1,000.

## **BACKGROUND**

The CalWORKs HVP was established in 2018 to support positive health, development and well-being outcomes for pregnant and parenting people, families, and infants born into poverty. By helping families achieve stability while participating in the CalWORKs HVP, the program hopes to lay the foundation for other long-term goals such as future educational opportunities, economic progress, and greater financial opportunities. This two-generational approach to service delivery will improve family engagement practices, support healthy development of young children living in poverty, and prepare parents for robust engagement in Welfare-to-Work activities and employment.

Prior to SB 187, home visitors could provide up to \$500 of material goods as needed for a CalWORKs HVP participant's household related to the care, health and safety of the child and family.

## **PROGRAM CHANGES**

As a result of SB 187, the CalWORKs HVP material goods fund limit was increased from \$500 to \$1,000 on July 1, 2022.

These funds may be spent on multiple items throughout the length of a family's participation in the HVP, as described in [ACIN No. I-4-20](#). Families who are currently enrolled in the program and have reached the \$500 material goods limit may receive an additional \$500 in material goods if they are otherwise eligible. The \$1,000 limit is cumulative per case.

## **MATERIAL GOODS**

Counties should coordinate with home visitors and CalWORKs staff for the distribution of funds for each family served by HVP. The material goods funding is not intended to be an incentive for individuals to participate, but rather a response to the specific needs of the enrolled participant and their families. The material goods fund is to be used as a mechanism to remove barriers for vulnerable enrolled families and to help support family stability. Not all families' needs will fall into the scope of this funding, but if an appropriate family need is identified by the home visitor in a participating county, efforts should be made to offer the material goods funds to eligible families.

## **MONITORING AND REPORTING OF FUNDS**

Counties and their contracting agencies shall collaborate to establish the process of issuing the material goods funds and have the flexibility to decide how to track the material goods payments. The CDSS recommends tracking the material goods payments in CalWORKs case documentation or the HVP monthly data reporting. The CDSS encourages counties and their subrecipient and/or contractor to make a reasonable effort to track aggregate information on the usage of these funds for ease of reporting and future program improvements. The agreement for the process of issuing material goods funds and deciding how to track the usage of funds should be documented as part of the county subrecipient agreement, contract, or MOU.

Additionally, per [WIC Section 11330.6\(b\)](#) these funds cannot be used to supplant services already being provided through Welfare-to-Work supportive services, such as, but not limited to, diapers and transportation. For more information on allowable uses, eligibility, administration, tracking, and distribution please refer to [ACIN No. I-4-20](#).

If you have any questions about the HVP, you may contact the CalWORKs and Family Resilience Branch by emailing [CalWORKsHVP@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CalWORKsHVP@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

Jennifer Hernandez  
Deputy Director  
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division