

May 30, 2023

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-47

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform County Welfare Departments of the increase to the vehicle value limit for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, Refugee Cash Assistance, Entrant Cash Assistance and Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Programs, effective July 1, 2023.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

May 30, 2023

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-47

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, REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE, ENTRANT CASH
ASSISTANCE, AND TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIMS
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, CHANGES TO VEHICLE VALUE
LIMITS FOR FAMILIES

REFERENCE: [SENATE BILL \(SB\) 80 \(CHAPTER 440, STATUTES OF 2019\);](#)
[WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(W&IC\) SECTION 11155](#)
[AND W&IC SECTION 11257; MANUAL POLICIES AND](#)
[PROCEDURES \(MPP\) SECTION 42-207, MPP SECTION 42-](#)
[215.4, MPP SECTION 69-201.4, MPP SECTION 69-301 AND MPP](#)
[SECTION 70-105; ALL COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) NO. 13-111, ACL](#)
[NO. 18-76 AND ACL NO. 19-67.](#)

The purpose of this letter is to inform all County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the increase to the vehicle value limit for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA), and Trafficking and Crime and Victims Assistance Programs (TCVAP), effective July 1, 2023. The [W&IC Sections 11155](#) and [11257](#) require the CalWORKs program to adjust the maximum vehicle limit in accordance with the United States (U.S.) Transportation Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

VEHICLE'S VALUE INCREASE

Effective July 1, 2023, the maximum value allowed for non-exempt vehicles will increase by both the 2022 and the 2023 increases to the CPI-U since the CDSS did not release guidance in 2022 to increase the vehicle asset limit. Therefore, the vehicle asset limit will be increased by 25.75 percent, reflecting compounded rate increases to the CPI-U of 21.09 percent in 2022 and an additional 3.85 percent in 2023.

The new maximum non-exempt vehicle value limit is **\$32,045**, effective July 1, 2023. The equity value for each motor vehicle in excess of **\$32,045** will be counted towards the maximum asset limit for CalWORKs, for applicant and recipient cases. Furthermore, CWDs must not apply the increase to the vehicle asset limit retroactively.

Future increase to the maximum CalWORKs non-exempt vehicle value limit will occur annually on July 1, if there is an increase to the CPI-U.

REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE/ ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE AND TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The RCA, ECA, and TCVAP cash assistance programs follow the CalWORKs administrative rules with certain exceptions. Pursuant to [MPP Section 69-201.4](#), CalWORKs program regulations apply to financial eligibility and payments for the RCA program, unless specifically superseded by RCA regulations. Unless otherwise provided, ECA and TCVAP recipients must be provided cash assistance under the same conditions and to the same extent as the RCA program per [MPP Sections 69-301](#) and [70-105](#), respectively. These implementation instructions for the vehicle maximum allowed non-exempt value increase shall also apply to RCA/ECA and TCVAP applicants and recipients.

AUTOMATION

The Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) will perform the necessary automation to increase the vehicle value limit based on the CPI-U increase effective July 1, 2023.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the Early Engagement and Eligibility Bureau at CWEligibilityPolicy@dss.ca.gov.

For RCA, ECA, and TCVAP programs, contact the Refugee Programs Bureau at RefugeePolicy@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,
Original Document Signed By:

JULIANNA VIGNALATS
Acting Deputy Director
Family Engagement & Empowerment Division