

September 1, 2023

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-71

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform County Welfare Departments of the 6.85 percent increase to the maximum resource limit for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, Refugee Cash Assistance, Entrant Cash Assistance and Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Programs, effective January 1, 2024.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

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

September 1, 2023

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 23-71

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 PROGRAMS: CHANGES TO MAXIMUM RESOURCE
LIMIT FOR FAMILIES

REFERENCE: [WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTION 11155](#) AND
[WIC SECTION 11257](#); [MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES](#)
[\(MPP\) SECTION 42-207](#), [MPP SECTION 42-213.2](#), [MPP SECTION](#)
[69-201.4](#), [MPP SECTION 69-301](#) AND [MPP SECTION 70-105](#); [ALL](#)
[COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) NO. 21-56](#) AND [ACL NO. 22-66](#)

The purpose of this letter is to inform County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the 6.85 percent increase to the maximum resource limit for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA), and Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Programs (TCVAP), effective January 1, 2024. Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 11155 and 11257 require CalWORKs to adjust the maximum resource limit in accordance with the California Necessities Index (CNI) each fiscal year.

MAXIMUM ASSET LIMIT INCREASE

Effective January 1, 2024, the maximum resource limit will increase by 6.85 percent based on the CNI for the most recent fiscal year. The new maximum resource limit for CalWORKs applicants and recipients will be **\$11,634**, or **\$17,452** for Assistance Units (AUs) that include at least one member who is age 60 or older or disabled.

CALWORKS RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS

Rules regarding restricted accounts remain unchanged. For guidance on restricted accounts, please see Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 42-213.2.

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

The instructions provided in this letter also apply to RCA/ECA and TCVAP applicants and recipients.

The RCA, ECA, and TCVAP cash assistance programs follow CalWORKs administrative rules with limited exceptions. Pursuant to MPP Section 69-201.4, CalWORKs 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.

NOTICE OF ACTION (NOA) MESSAGE

[M44-316C \(08/22\) – No change/mid-period report of property](#)

CWDs are reminded to utilize NOA message M44-316C to notify CalWORKs AUs of the resource limits and to inform AUs that information reported about resources during the certification period has resulted in no change to their benefit amount. The NOA message was revised in 2022 to allow the CWD to update resource limits without having to create a new NOA message with every increase.

AUTOMATION

Effective January 1, 2024, the Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) will perform the necessary automation to increase the maximum resource limit for all impacted programs.

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:

Alexis Fernández Garcia
Deputy Director
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division