

May 31, 2024

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 24-37**

The purpose of this All County Letter is to inform County Welfare Departments of an increase to the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care and Income In-Kind levels effective July 1, 2024, for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, Refugee Cash Assistance, Entrant Cash Assistance, and the Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program.



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

May 31, 2024

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 24-37

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

SUBJECT: COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM  
BASIC STANDARD OF ADEQUATE CARE AND INCOME IN-KIND  
LEVELS FOR CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND  
RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS, REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE,  
ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE, AND THE TRAFFICKING AND  
CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REFERENCE: [WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTIONS 11450, 11452,](#)  
[AND 11453; MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES](#)  
[SECTIONS 69-201.4, 69-301, AND 70-105; ALL COUNTY](#)  
[LETTER NO. 23-48](#)

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform County Welfare Departments (CWD) of a 4.32 percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and Income In-Kind (IIC) levels effective July 1, 2024, for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA), and the Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP).

The [Welfare and Institutions Code \(W&IC\) Section 11453](#) requires CalWORKs MBSAC levels to be adjusted annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the cost of living.

The new MBSAC levels provided via this letter are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2024. 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 IIC levels are included in this chart as these amounts also increased because of the MBSAC COLA.

The Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) will be updated to reflect the new MBSAC and IIK levels. If the SAWS is unable to implement the new MBSAC level by July 1, 2024, the CWD must review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2024, 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 must be used prospectively as soon as timely and adequate notice can be provided.

**REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE, ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE, AND  
TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIM'S 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.

**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](mailto:CWEligibilityPolicy@dss.ca.gov).

For RCA, ECA, or TCVAP, contact the Refugee Programs Bureau at [RefugeePolicy@dss.ca.gov](mailto:RefugeePolicy@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By***

ALEXIS FERNÁNDEZ GARCIA  
Deputy Director  
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division

Attachment

## ATTACHMENT A

### MBSAC Payment Standards July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025

Region 1 Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 California Needs Index (CNI) 4.32%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
1	\$899	408	86	223	68
2	\$1,476	541	99	477	132
3	\$1,829	593	102	611	197
4	\$2,170	624	107	755	263
5	\$2,476	624	107	916	335
6	\$2,785	624	107	1,059	401
7	\$3,061	624	107	1,181	468
8	\$3,331	624	107	1,288	520
9	\$3,614	624	107	1,418	598
10	\$3,922	624	107	1,534	655
More than 10	Add \$35 for each extra person				

Region 2 FY 2024-25 CNI 4.32%

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
1	\$853	391	86	223	68
2	\$1,401	516	99	477	132
3	\$1,736	565	102	611	197
4	\$2,063	593	107	755	263
5	\$2,360	593	107	916	335
6	\$2,650	593	107	1,059	401
7	\$2,903	593	107	1,181	468
8	\$3,171	593	107	1,288	520
9	\$3,427	593	107	1,418	598
10	\$3,730	593	107	1,534	655
More than 10	Add \$35 for each extra person				