

April 16 2020

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER**

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties to waive family fees for recipients of California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Stage One Child Care due to the statewide outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19 or novel coronavirus).



KIM JOHNSON  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
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GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

April 16, 2020

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FROM: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ, Deputy Director  
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS  
(CALWORKS) STAGE ONE CHILD CARE WAIVING FAMILY FEES DUE TO THE  
STATEWIDE OUTBREAK OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19 or NOVEL  
CORONAVIRUS)

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties to temporarily waive family fees for recipients of the CalWORKs Stage One Child Care Program due to the statewide outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19 or novel coronavirus).

**BACKGROUND**

According to [Education Code Section 8351\(c\)](#) former CalWORKs recipients receiving CalWORKs Stage One Child Care are assessed a family fee based on family size and income pursuant to [Education Code 8263](#) and [Education Code 8263.1](#). [Education Code Section 8273.1\(b\)](#) specifies that a family receiving CalWORKs cash aid shall not be charged a family fee.

On March 17, 2020, the Governor signed [Senate Bill 117](#) (Chapter 3, Statutes of 2020) which includes provisions to ensure continuity of care for children and continuity of payments to state-subsidized early learning and care programs, subject to guidance from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI).

The law allows the SSPI to develop directives and bulletins to address contractual and reporting requirements applicable for the 2019-20 fiscal year for child and development programs impacted by COVID-19. At the direction of the SSPI, the California Department of Education's (CDE) Early Learning and Care Division released [Management Bulletin 20-05](#) waiving family fees for early learning and care programs supervised by the CDE. The CDSS is issuing this same directive requiring counties to waive family fees for former CalWORKs recipients receiving Stage One Child Care.

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**FAMILY FEE TEMPORARY WAIVER**

Effective April 1, 2020, counties will waive family fees for former CalWORKs recipients receiving Stage One Child Care from April through June 3, 2020. The waiver of family fees for parents will not affect the amounts paid to providers. Counties are to reimburse providers for the full amount of the applicable reimbursement without deducting family fees.

The Fiscal Policy and Analysis Bureau will provide fiscal claiming instructions in a forthcoming County Fiscal Letter. For claiming questions, you may email the Fiscal Policy and Analysis Bureau at [fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov](mailto:fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov).

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the Child Care Intergenerational Services Bureau at (916) 657-2144 or at address [CCPB@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CCPB@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By***

JENNIFER HERNANDEZ, Deputy Director  
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division