

August 02, 2022

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER-ERRATUM

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide corrected guidance for baby formula related expenses claimed under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Family Stabilization Program Codes and Program Identifier Numbers. This ACWDL supersedes the ACWDL dated June 3, 2022.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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August 2, 2022

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) USE OF FAMILY STABILIZATION (FS) TO
ASSIST WELFARE-TO-WORK (WTW) PARTICIPANTS DURING
THE CURRENT BABY FORMULA SHORTAGE (ERRATUM)

The [ACWDL dated June 3, 2022](#) contained incorrect claiming guidance. Therefore, this ACWDL supersedes the previous ACWDL.

The recent recall of certain 2022 Abbott powdered formulas, along with the impacts of the ongoing pandemic has led to periodic shortages of major brands of infant formula. The infant formula supply chain problems have affected all consumers, including California families receiving formula through the Women Infants and Child (WIC) program.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) recognizes that the baby formula shortage disproportionately affects the populations the CDSS and County Welfare Departments (CWD) serve. In light of the shortage and the subsequent increase in formula prices, now and into the future, the CDSS would like to encourage CWDs to assist their California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) population as best they can. The Family Stabilization (FS) program can be used for Welfare-To-Work (WTW) participants to obtain or cover costs related to baby formula, as well as other supports in order to stabilize the family.

The FS program is designed to ensure a basic level of stability within a family prior to, or concurrently with, participation in WTW. CalWORKs WTW clients are eligible to participate in FS at any time if the county determines that the family is experiencing an

identified situation and/or crisis that is destabilizing the family. This includes families that are struggling to feed their children due to an inability to obtain formula or are impacted due to the rising costs associated with the baby formula shortage. Exempt individuals are also eligible to participate in FS if the CWD determines that it will enable future participation in WTW per MPP Section 42-749.13.

Corrected Claiming Guidance

Costs for baby formula or related expenses may be claimed to the following PCs and PIN combinations, based on the eligibility of the Assistance Unit and whether the recipient in question is either:

- Employed (refer to [Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations \[CFR\] 260.31\[b\]\[3\]](#)) **and/or** receiving the service as a non-recurring short term benefit for a period not to extend beyond four months (refer to [45 CFR 260.31\[b\]\[1\]](#)), or
- Unemployed (refer to [45 CFR 260.31\[a\]\[3\]](#)) and not receiving the service as a NSTB.

Those PCs/PINs are, with respect to the following populations, as follows:

- Federally eligible – PC 0884 (Family Stabilization – Federal – Case Management):
 - Employed and/or NSTB: PIN 08840028 (Family Stabilization – Federal – Case Management – Work Related Activities and Expenses – Employed)
 - Unemployed and Non-NSTB: PIN 08840029 (Family Stabilization – Federal – Case Management – Other Supportive Services – Unemployed)
- Non-federally eligible – PC 0885 (Family Stabilization – Non-Federal – Case Management):
 - Employed and/or NSTB: PIN 08850028 (Family Stabilization – Non-Federal – Case Management – Work Related Activities and Expenses – Employed)
 - Unemployed and Non-NSTB: PIN 08850029 (Family Stabilization – Non-Federal – Case Management – Other Supportive Services – Unemployed)
- Non-Maintenance of Effort (MOE) eligible – PC 0926 (Family Stabilization – Non-MOE – Case Management):
 - Employed and/or NSTB: PIN 09260028 (Family Stabilization – Non-MOE – Case Management – Work Related Activities and Expenses – Employed)
 - Unemployed and Non-NSTB: PIN 09260029 (Family Stabilization – Non-MOE – Case Management – Other Supportive Services – Unemployed)

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As a reminder, claiming guidance for the Family Stabilization program may be found in [County Fiscal Letter \(CFL\) 13/14-35](#) and [CFL 14/15-60](#).

If you have any programmatic questions regarding the Family Stabilization program, contact the CalWORKs Engagement Bureau at (916) 654-1451 or at CWEngagementPolicy@dss.ca.gov. Fiscal questions regarding the claiming guidance provided may be directed to Fiscal.Systems@dss.ca.gov.