

March 20, 2024

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter is to provide County Welfare Departments with guidance regarding one federal waiver that has been extended until June 30, 2024: a waiver of the recording requirement for telephonic signatures (if certain criteria are met).



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

March 20, 2024

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FROM: ALEXIS FERNÁNDEZ GARCIA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT DIVISION

SUBJECT: CALFRESH EXTENSION OF WAIVER TO SUPPORT TIMELY
PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS: TELEPHONIC SIGNATURE

REFERENCE: [TITLE 7 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS \(CFR\) 273.2\(a\)\(2\);
7 CFR 272.3\(c\)\(1\)\(ii\); UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE \(USDA\) FOOD AND NUTRITION \(FNS\) MEMO -
SNAP TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVERS AVAILABLE
TO STATE AGENCIES TO SUPPORT UNWINDING FROM THE
COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DATED AUGUST 15,
2022; ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER \(ACWDL\)
MARCH 28, 2023](#)

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with guidance regarding extended CalFresh waiver authority granted to support the effective and efficient administration of the CalFresh program. Waiver authority is requested by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and approved by the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

WAIVER APPROVAL

The following waiver has been **extended through June 30, 2024**, unless otherwise communicated by CDSS:

- A waiver of the recording requirement for telephonic signatures (if certain criteria are met)

The waiver of the recording requirement for telephonic signatures (if certain criteria are met) applies to both initial application and recertification.

For detailed guidance on the implementation of this waiver, refer to [ACWDL issued on April 2, 2020](#). For previous extensions, refer to [ACWDL issued on May 28, 2020](#); [ACWDL issued on April 15, 2021](#); [ACWDL issued on July 1, 2021](#); [ACWDL issued on December 30, 2021](#); [ACWDL issued on March 29, 2022](#); [ACWDL issued on June 21, 2022](#); [ACWDL issued September 26, 2022](#); [ACWDL issued December 21, 2022](#), and [ACWDL issued March 28, 2023](#).

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Within 45 days of the expiration, withdrawal, or termination of the waiver, CDSS must report to FNS the outcome of the waiver. To fulfill this reporting requirement, the CDSS will develop an electronic survey that must be completed by all counties by July 26, 2024. If the waiver expires sooner than anticipated or is extended, the CDSS will adjust the survey due date accordingly.

The electronic survey will request the following information from CWDs:

- Estimated number of households affected by the waiver.
- Any issues associated with the waiver, including the number of client complaints (verbal or written).

If you have questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the CalFresh Policy and Employment Bureau at CalFreshPolicy@dss.ca.gov.