

July 22, 2021

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide County Welfare Departments (CWDs) information related to the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund, which was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

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

July 22, 2021

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FROM: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT DIVISION

SUBJECT: COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT ADVANCE PAYMENTS TO
SUPPORT THE PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND
PAYMENTS

REFERENCE: [PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND \(SECTION 9201 OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, PUBLIC LAW 117-2; SECTION 403\(C\) OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT\), ASSEMBLY BILL 135 \(SECTION 18, CHAPTER 4.8 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE\), AND SENATE BILL 135 \(SECTION 18, CHAPTER 4.8 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE\)](#)

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with information related to the state's Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund (PEAF) allotment, which was authorized as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021. The PEAFF provided funding to states, tribes administering a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, and five U.S. territories to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In California, these funds were used to provide a one-time payment to California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) recipient families to assist them in dealing with added costs caused by the pandemic. Some of the additional costs incurred by CalWORKs families may include increased utility costs, the closure of childcare centers, and further costs associated with distance learning.

On June 22, 2021, the CWDs received federal funds to support the costs associated with issuance of the PEAFF payments as part of their regular County Assistance payments for June 2021. The advances were identified as "Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund" on the AA-190 and are included as Attachment I to this letter. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has determined each county's

advance payment based on CalWORKs case counts from the CA 237 CW report from the month of January 2021, multiplied by the \$640 one-time payment that each eligible CalWORKs Assistance Unit will receive. A five percent increase was added to each county's case counts to support adequate cashflow. The payment was issued on July 10, 2021.

Guidance on the treatment of the PEAFF payments for CalWORKs recipients and the claiming details are issued under a separate All County Letter and County Fiscal Letter.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The CDSS launched a [webpage](#) to provide information to CalWORKs recipient families and supportive materials for CWDs and community-based organizations serving recipients of programs overseen by the CDSS. The materials were designed to be used by CWDs and other partner organizations to raise awareness of the PEAFF for CalWORKs families and notify clients of the payment. The webpage includes information and resources for:

- Members of the public, including:
 - Frequently Asked Questions
- County Welfare Departments and Community-Based Organizations, including:
 - Email and phone script for CDSS client notification campaign
 - Client Facing Flyer (English and Spanish versions)
 - Social Media Graphics
 - Social Media Post information (English and Spanish)

Fiscal questions regarding this letter may be directed to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov. Questions regarding CalWORKs may be directed to the Early Engagement and Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322.

Attachment I

Advance Amounts for Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds

County	Stipend Total
Alameda	\$4,528,640
Alpine	\$0
Amador	\$84,480
Butte	\$1,214,720
Calaveras	\$184,960
Colusa	\$69,760
Contra Costa	\$3,721,600
Del Norte	\$305,920
El Dorado	\$413,440
Fresno	\$10,782,720
Glenn	\$176,640
Humboldt	\$716,160
Imperial	\$2,209,280
Inyo	\$40,960
Kern	\$9,787,520
Kings	\$1,485,440
Lake	\$446,080
Lassen	\$216,320
Los Angeles	\$66,443,520
Madera	\$1,605,120
Marin	\$424,320
Mariposa	\$106,240
Mendocino	\$403,840
Merced	\$3,501,440
Modoc	\$75,520
Mono	\$11,520
Monterey	\$1,900,160
Napa	\$209,280
Nevada	\$240,000

County	Stipend Total
Orange	\$7,911,040
Placer	\$454,400
Plumas	\$71,680
Riverside	\$10,492,160
Sacramento	\$11,418,880
San Benito	\$235,520
San Bernardino	\$18,090,240
San Diego	\$8,950,400
San Francisco	\$1,667,840
San Joaquin	\$5,737,600
San Luis Obispo	\$659,840
San Mateo	\$473,600
Santa Barbara	\$1,810,560
Santa Clara	\$2,881,280
Santa Cruz	\$791,680
Shasta	\$974,720
Sierra	\$8,320
Siskiyou	\$298,240
Solano	\$1,936,640
Sonoma	\$833,920
Stanislaus	\$4,035,200
Sutter	\$741,120
Tehama	\$484,480
Trinity	\$67,840
Tulare	\$6,268,160
Tuolumne	\$163,840
Ventura	\$2,144,640
Yolo	\$620,800
Yuba	\$828,800
TOTAL	\$202,359,040