

(r) COORDINATION OF WELFARE-TO-WORK ACTIVITIES WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCILS

How will the county coordinate welfare-to-work activities with the local private industry councils or alternate administrative entities designated by the Governor to administer local welfare-to-work programs, including the expenditure of state or other matching funds provided to the county welfare department for welfare-to-work activities. [Reference: WIC Section 10531(q)]

COUNTY RESPONSE

The federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997 includes Welfare-to-Work (WtW) grant funds intended to serve individuals with characteristics associated with long term welfare dependency. In addition to administering a comprehensive welfare-to-work plan under the CalWORKs program, SSA and the three local Private Industry Councils will work in a coordinated effort to provide WtW services to the prescribed target population within the CalWORKs caseload.

A service delivery plan has been developed whereby the PICs will provide WtW activities that are consistent with federal law as well as the objectives of the CalWORKs program. These activities are:

- To conduct and administer work experience programs;
- Job creation through public or private sector employment wage subsidies;
- On-the-job training;
- Contracts with public or private providers of readiness, placement and post-employment services;
- Job vouchers for readiness, placement and post-employment services; and
- Job retention or support services if such services are not otherwise available.

Job readiness, placement or post-placement services may be provided as part of a comprehensive program rather than through contract vouchers.

PICs will provide WtW-eligible CalWORKs recipients with assessment services, including basic skills tests. These individuals will then take part in intense job search/job readiness and placement activities. CalWORKs and PIC WtW staff will have joint case management responsibilities and individuals may be involved in concurrent CalWORKs and WtW activities.

Job retention and support services will also be coordinated through joint case management. These services include:

- Training interventions after an individual gets hired
- Food Banks
- Funds for clothing/uniforms
- Additional child care cash assistance, not available from other resources
- Creation of an English-as-a-Second Language course within a job site (if needed)
- Car pool/vanpool
- Mentoring
- Skills upgrade training

SSA will maximize WtW funds, as well as any state or other matching funds in order to meet state and federal mandates and to ensure successful outcomes. SSA and the PICs will continue to meet in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the service strategy. As the Orange County CalWORKs plan becomes fully operational revisions to the scope and focus of the federal WtW program may be warranted. Addendums to the Orange County CalWORKs plan will be presented as required by state law.

CERTIFICATION

THIS PLAN HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROPRIATE FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY LAWS AND REGULATIONS. THE TERMS OF THIS PLAN, INCLUDING ALL CERTIFICATIONS WITHIN THIS PLAN, AND ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS WILL BE FOLLOWED DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EXECUTION OF THIS PLAN.

County Welfare Director's
Signature

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors
Signature
