

**Riverside County
CalWORKS County Plan Addendum**

Welfare-to-Work State Match Funds

Introduction

The 2003-2004 budget for the state of California includes General Fund dollars to meet the WtW Grant Program match requirements. The WtW Grant Program provides grants to states and local communities to create additional job opportunities to individuals who are the hardest to employ.

Most individuals served under the WtW Grant Program are linked to receiving CalWORKS assistance. Other individuals that qualify for the WtW Grant Program include youth, ages 18 through 24, who received foster care before turning 18 years of age, custodial parents, who are unemployed or underemployed and non-custodial parents with income below the federal poverty level.

**Local
Workforce
Investment
Board**

The Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (RCDPSS) is working with the Riverside County Economic Development Agency (RCEDA) to provide services and avoid duplication of services to the CalWORKS population under the WtW Grant Program.

**Eligible
Population**

The focus for County of Riverside is the CalWORKS recipient. The recipients can fall into several categories.

- Having received aid for at least 30 months or more (months do not need to be consecutive); or
- Will become ineligible for assistance within 12 months due to the federal 60-month life-time limit on aid; or
- Will become ineligible for CalWORKS assistance within 12 months because the last minor child in the family will turn 18 years of age; or
- Have received cash assistance for less than 30 months and a) have a characteristic associated with long-term welfare dependency or b) have a significant barrier to self-sufficiency.

Riverside County will not be using State match funds to provide services to:

- Non-custodial parents (NCPs),
- Foster Care Youth,
- Working Poor (unless they are currently receiving CalWORKS services).

Riverside County has not served NCPs, Foster Care Youth or Working Poor through the WtW Grant Program.

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Welfare-to-Work State Match Funds, (Cont.)

Allowable Activities

Allowable activities are approved by the welfare-to-work staff at RCDPSS. These activities can include:

- Job Readiness,
 - Vocational education or training,
 - Employment activities,
 - Post employment activities.
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Support Services

Our Welfare-to-Work State Match funds for the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 are to be used to provide needed supportive services for the participants in the hard-to-serve group. These supportive services include childcare, transportation and ancillary services. A small portion of the WtW Grant State Match funds are used to pay for staff hours while identifying participants who qualify for the WtW Grant Program. RCDPSS provide all services using the WtW State Match funds. No duplication of services occur.

Definitions

Riverside County defines full time employment as working 32 or more hours per week and earning a wage that is equal to or greater than minimum wage.

Having a significant barrier to self-sufficiency is defined as:

- lacking necessary transportation,
- not having the tools or supplies necessary for seeking or maintaining employment,
- needing child care funding,
- having a need for counseling services (mental health, alcohol/drug, domestic violence).

Poor work history is defined as having quit a job in the last 18 months, having quit a job without good cause or having a history of job separation due to physical incapacity.