

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



November 2, 2001

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NO. I-92-01

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM COORDINATORS**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS  
(CalWORKs) - PETITIONING FOR RELEASE OF TRUST FUNDSREFERENCE: Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) 40-115,  
MPP 40-157, MPP 63-501.3

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to provide clarification to ensure that counties are correctly applying property rules to trust funds of families in the CalWORKs Program. It has come to the attention of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) that some counties are requiring families to petition for release of trust funds established for individuals in the assistance unit (AU). Petitioning for the release of trust funds was previously required under MPP 42-211 of the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, but is no longer a requirement since the CalWORKs Program resource rules are now tied to the Food Stamp Program resource rules (MPP 63-501). Counties are to ensure that all staff is aware that this section is obsolete and that the change was effective January 1, 1998. **Therefore, applicants and recipients of CalWORKs are NOT required to petition for release of trust fund accounts as a condition of eligibility.**

It is the responsibility of the county to make a reasonable determination on a case-by-case basis, as to the accessibility of funds retained by an applicant or recipient family. If the funds are determined to be inaccessible in accordance with MPP 63-501.3, no further action is necessary. However, if the funds do not meet the inaccessibility rule, further investigation is required to determine whether the funds may be exempt under any other provision.

If you have questions regarding this ACIN, contact Rosie Avena at (916) 654-1514.

Sincerely,

**Original Document Signed By**  
**Charr Lee Metsker on 11/02/01**

CHARR LEE METSKER, Chief  
Employment and Eligibility Branch

c: CWDA  
CSAC