

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

September 27, 2007

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-48-07

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL FOOD STAMP PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP SIMPLIFICATION OPTIONS EFFECTIVE
NOVEMBER 1, 2006-CLARIFICATION OF THE \$50 CHILD SUPPORT
DISREGARD AND 19 YEAR OLD STUDENT EARNINGS EXCLUSION

REFERENCE: FOOD STAMP REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002,
(PUBLIC LAW 107-171 OF MAY 13, 2002);
ALL COUNTY LETTER 07-31;
ALL COUNTY LETTER 06-31;
ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-40-06;
ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-69-06.

The purpose of this letter is to provide a copy of the final version of the Mass Change Notice discussed in the Simplification Option All County Letter 07-31. The final version of the notice, which is in both English and Spanish, is attached.

The Notice explains that the child support disregard is no longer considered an exclusion from income and will now be considered income to the household. Additionally, the earned income of a child under 18 years, not 19 years, who is in elementary or secondary school at least half time, will be excluded as income. The County Welfare Department may publicize the simplification option changes through the news media; posters in certification offices, issuance locations, or other sites frequented by certified households; or mass change notices mailed to households per MPP 63-504.391(b).

If you have any questions or comments regarding this notice, please contact LeAnne Torres, of the Food Stamp Policy Implementation Unit at (916) 654-2135 or via email at LeAnne.Torres@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:RICHTON YEE, Chief
Food Stamp Branch

Attachment

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS

On or before November 1, 2007, the following types of money will now count as income when figuring food stamp benefits:

- All child/spousal support, including the \$50 disregard.
- Earned income of a child 18 years or older. (Earned income of a child under 18 years and who is also an elementary or secondary student at least ½-time is not treated as income.)

If your food stamp household receives the types of income talked about here, benefits may decrease depending on other changes that may happen in you household.

You will get a separate notice if your food stamps change for other reasons.

For questions, call your county representative.

If you think we made a mistake in figuring your benefits because of this change, you may ask for a state hearing within 90 days of when you got this notice by writing to:

Or you may call toll free: 1-800-952-5253. If you are deaf and use TDD, call 1-800-952-8349. When you ask for a state hearing, you must tell us why you think we made a mistake. You can speak for yourself at the hearing or you can have a friend, attorney, or other person speak for you. You may ask for free legal aid at a legal aid office in your area. If you get benefits and then get an adverse fair hearing decision, you may have to repay the benefits.

AVISO IMPORTANTE PARA LOS GRUPOS PARA FINES DE ESTAMPILLAS PARA COMIDA

A partir del 1° de noviembre de 2007 (o antes de esa fecha), las siguientes clases de dinero ahora contarán como ingresos cuando se calculen los beneficios de estampillas para comida:

- Todo el mantenimiento de hijos/esposa(o), incluyendo la deducción de \$50.
- Los ingresos ganados por una persona de 18 años de edad o más. (Los ingresos ganados por una persona menor de 18 años quien también es un estudiante de escuela primaria o secundaria al menos 1/2 tiempo no se consideran como ingresos.)

Si su grupo para fines de estampillas para comida (grupo) recibe el tipo de ingresos que se mencionan aquí, es posible que reduzcan los beneficios dependiendo de otros cambios que pudieran haber en su grupo.

Usted recibirá una notificación por separado si sus beneficios de estampillas para comida cambian por otras razones.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame al representante del condado encargado de su caso.

Si usted piensa que hemos cometido un error al calcular la cantidad de sus estampillas para comida a causa de este cambio, puede pedir una audiencia con el Estado, antes de que pasen 90 días a partir de la fecha en que usted recibió esta carta, escribiendo a:

o puede llamar gratuitamente al 1-800-952-5253. Si usted tiene problemas de audición y usa TDD*, llame al 1-800-952-8349. Cuando pide una audiencia con el Estado, tiene que decirnos por qué usted piensa que hemos cometido un error. En la audiencia, puede hablar a nombre de sí mismo, o un amigo, abogado, u otra persona puede hablar a nombre de usted. Puede pedir ayuda legal gratuita de una oficina de asesoramiento legal en su área. Si usted recibe beneficios y luego recibe una decisión adversa en la audiencia con el Estado, es posible que tenga que reembolsar los beneficios que recibió.

*aparato de telecomunicaciones para las personas con problemas de audición.