

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



August 12, 1999

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-54-99

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE CHILDCARE COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE TO WORK 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: CALWORKS INFORMING DOCUMENT: WORK PAYS, SUPPORTIVE AND TRANSITIONAL SERVICES, AND TIME LIMITS

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to transmit to counties the attached informing notice that may be used to advise CalWORKs applicants and recipients about the benefits of working, the availability of supportive and transitional services, and time limits. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is mailing a copy of this informing notice to all recipients in mid-August 1999 via a Department of Health Services mailing.

Counties are strongly encouraged to use this form to inform clients about the benefits of working, the support services available and the impending timelimits on cash aid. This informing notice is not a legal requirement but was developed at the request of the counties with extensive county assistance.

Camera-Ready Copies and Translations

For camera-ready copies of the English and Spanish versions of the forms, counties should call the Forms Management Unit (FMU) at (916) 657-1907 or CALNET at 437-1907. If your office has internet access, you may obtain various forms and Notice of Form Change (GEN 127) from the CDSS web page at <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov>. To accommodate agencies without Internet access, copies will be available by contacting the FMU.

Translations will be available within approximately 30 days. For Chinese, Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Russian versions of the forms, call Language Translation Services (LTS) at (916) 657-1282 or CALNET 464-1282. If you need several forms, please fax your request to (916) 657-3429 or e-mail your request to lsu@dss.ca.gov. Your Forms Coordinator now receives all translations as soon as they become available, if your county is on the LTS mailing list. Once you have established an e-mail address, please contact FMU by telephone or e-mail at fm@dss.ca.gov. FMU will then place you on their e-mail list.

Counties shall provide bilingual/interpretive services and written translations of this form to non-English speaking populations comprising five percent or more of the population within a program and/or location (Civil Rights NonDiscrimination, Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 21, Section 115).

The form designation for this document is "Recommended." Counties may add phone numbers and otherwise alter this document to individualize it to meet county needs. However, counties are advised not to change the language which describes statewide requirements or the availability of services including child care.

If you have any questions about this notice or the attached document, please contact the staff listed for the specific areas:

- This ACIN - Mr. Vincent Toolan at (916) 654-1808/CALNET 464-1808.
- The child care message – call (916) 657-2144/CALNET 437-2144 for referral to your county's Child Care Program Bureau analyst.
- The transitional Medi-Cal message - Ms. Marge Buzdas at (916) 657-0726/CALNET 437-0726.
- The 60-month time limit message - Ms. Charissa Miguelino at (916) 657-3665/CALNET 437-3665.
- The 18- and 24-month time limits message - Mr. Walter Johnson at (916) 657-5039/CALNET 437-5039.
- The supportive and job retention services message - Mr. David Nelson at (916) 654-6091/CALNET 437-6091.

Sincerely,
Original document signed by
Charr Lee Metsker on 8/12/99
CHARR LEE METSKER, Chief
Employment and Eligibility Branch

Attachment

c: CWDA
CSAC

WORK REALLY PAYS! HERE'S HOW:

You can work and still get CalWORKs cash aid as long as you remain eligible. When you add the amount of your earnings to your cash aid, you will have more \$\$\$ for your family. Work also:

- Builds a better life for you and your family.
- Builds your self-esteem.
- Develops your job skills, and helps you get a better job.
- Gives you personal satisfaction.

HERE IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW WORK PAYS FOR MARY AND HER TWO CHILDREN:

Step 1	We figure Mary's <u>weekly earnings</u> : $\$6.00 \times 32 \text{ hours} = \$192 \text{ Weekly Earnings}$										
Step 2	We figure Mary's <u>monthly earnings</u> : $\$192 \times 4.3 \text{ weeks} = \$825 \text{ Monthly Earnings}$										
Step 3	We figure Mary's <u>monthly net earnings</u> : <table> <tr> <td>Mary's Monthly Earnings</td><td>\$ 825</td></tr> <tr> <td>Less \$225 deduction</td><td>- 225</td></tr> <tr> <td>Balance</td><td>\$ 600</td></tr> <tr> <td>Less 50% (half) deduction (\$600 ÷ 2 = \$300)</td><td>- 300</td></tr> <tr> <td>Equals Net Earnings</td><td>\$ 300</td></tr> </table>	Mary's Monthly Earnings	\$ 825	Less \$225 deduction	- 225	Balance	\$ 600	Less 50% (half) deduction (\$600 ÷ 2 = \$300)	- 300	Equals Net Earnings	\$ 300
Mary's Monthly Earnings	\$ 825										
Less \$225 deduction	- 225										
Balance	\$ 600										
Less 50% (half) deduction (\$600 ÷ 2 = \$300)	- 300										
Equals Net Earnings	\$ 300										
Step 4	We figure Mary's <u>cash grant</u> : <table> <tr> <td>Non-exempt Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) for 3</td><td>\$ 611</td></tr> <tr> <td>Less Mary's Net Earnings</td><td>- 300</td></tr> <tr> <td>Equals Cash Grant</td><td>\$ 311</td></tr> </table>	Non-exempt Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) for 3	\$ 611	Less Mary's Net Earnings	- 300	Equals Cash Grant	\$ 311				
Non-exempt Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) for 3	\$ 611										
Less Mary's Net Earnings	- 300										
Equals Cash Grant	\$ 311										
Step 5	We figure Mary's <u>total monthly income</u> : <table> <tr> <td>Monthly Earnings</td><td>\$ 825</td></tr> <tr> <td>Plus Cash Grant</td><td>+ 311</td></tr> <tr> <td>Equals Total Income</td><td>\$1,136</td></tr> </table>	Monthly Earnings	\$ 825	Plus Cash Grant	+ 311	Equals Total Income	\$1,136				
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Plus Cash Grant	+ 311										
Equals Total Income	\$1,136										

WORK PAYS IN SO MANY OTHER WAYS, TOO!

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

While in CalWORKs, you and the county will agree on certain goals and program activities to help you get a job and support your family without cash aid. To help you take part in these program activities, the county will provide supportive services for transportation, child care, ancillary costs, and counseling services to help with the transition to work.

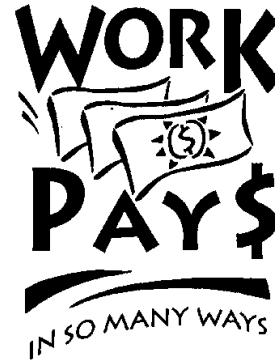


FIGURE YOUR EARNINGS AND CASH AID:

Step 1 Figure your weekly earnings:

Your hourly wage \$_____ x your weekly hours of work_____ = your Weekly Earnings \$_____.

Step 2 Figure your monthly earnings:

Your Weekly Earnings \$_____ x 4.3 (weeks in a month) = your Monthly Earnings \$_____.

Step 3 Figure your monthly net earnings:

Your Monthly Earnings \$_____ - \$225 deduction = \$_____ - 50% (half) of the balance \$_____ = your Monthly Net Earnings \$_____.

Step 4 Figure your CalWORKs cash grant:

MAP for your family size \$_____ - your Monthly Net Earnings \$_____ = your CalWORKs Cash Grant amount \$_____.

Step 5 Figure your total monthly income:

Your Monthly Earnings \$_____ + your CalWORKs Cash Grant \$_____ = your Total Monthly Income of \$_____.

- Si desea una traducción de esta notificación, comuníquese con su trabajador. (Spanish)
- 若需本通知的翻譯本，請和你的工作員聯絡。 (Chinese)
- សំរាប់សេចក្តីបកប្រែនៃប្រកាសនេះ សូមទាក់ទងទៅអ្នកកាន់សំណុំរឿងរបស់លោកអ្នក ។ (Cambodian)
- Для перевода этого извещения обратитесь к работнику. (Russian)
- Để có bản dịch của thông báo này, xin liên lạc với nhân viên phụ trách hồ sơ của quý vị. (Vietnamese)

TURN PAGE OVER FOR FACTS ABOUT OTHER BENEFITS YOU CAN GET FROM WORKING

CHILD CARE

You may have part or all of your child care paid. You can get paid child care while you look for a job, work, or take part in other approved CalWORKs activities, such as training or county orientation meetings. Your child care will be paid to the eligible child care provider that you choose.

If you are working or taking part in a county approved activity, you can get paid child care for the entire time you are on cash aid. After you go off cash aid, you can continue to get child care for up to 24 months.

After you have received 24 months of child care, you may continue to get child care if funding is available and your family remains eligible. The county or the local Alternative Payment Program agency will help you to find additional services.

JOB RETENTION SERVICES

Some counties provide job retention services for eligible former recipients as part of the CalWORKs program. Job retention services can be case management or other services that help you keep a job or get a better job. Ask your worker what services may be available in your county. Months you get job retention services do not count against the California 60-month time limit, and do not count against the Federal limit as long as you are employed.

You may get job retention services IF:

- You received a CalWORKs cash grant AND
- You went off cash aid because you got a job.

You can get these services for up to 12 months from the time you stopped getting a CalWORKs cash grant because of earnings from a job.

HEALTH COVERAGE IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Your health coverage may continue when your CalWORKs cash aid stops.

- Depending on the reason your cash aid stops, you and your child(ren) may be eligible for continued no-cost or low-cost health coverage under the Medi-Cal or Healthy Families programs.
- Tell the county if you want health coverage after your cash aid stops.

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)

When you work and have low income, you can usually get the EITC. You must file a federal tax return to get the EITC. The money you get from the EITC will not lower your cash aid grant. If you would like to know more about the EITC, ask your worker.

WORKING HELPS YOU AVOID THE TIME LIMITS ON CalWORKs CASH AID

State 18 and 24-Month Time Limits

To keep getting cash aid beyond 18 or 24 months, a parent or caretaker relative must work and/or take part in community service for the number of hours the county requires.

- The 18-month limit applies to recipients who began getting cash aid in or after the month the county started its CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work program. The county may extend the 18-month limit for an additional 6 months.
- The 24-month limit applies to recipients who began getting cash aid in the month before the county started its Welfare-to-Work program.
- The 18-month or 24-month time limit period starts when you and the county sign your Welfare-to-Work plan, or when you refuse to sign your Welfare-to-Work plan.

Federal and State 60-Month Time limits

As of January 1, 1998, a parent or caretaker relative can only get CalWORKs cash aid for up to a lifetime total of 60 months. Cash aid received from CalWORKs and/or from any other state counts toward the 60-month limit.

- There are exceptions to the 60-month time limit rule. These exceptions allow aid to continue past the time limit, or stop a month of aid from counting toward the time limit. Some of these exceptions are:
 - The limit does not apply to children.
 - A month on cash aid does not count toward the 60-month time limit when the person is:
 - ✓ Age 60 or older.
 - ✓ Exempt from taking part in Welfare-to-work activities for certain reasons.
 - ✓ Disabled for 30 days or more.
 - ✓ And other reasons your worker can tell you.
- Other states may have different rules for the 60-month time limit.