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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

July 15, 2011

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 11-50

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 CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY CalFRESH SPECIALISTS
ALL CONSORTIA REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) PROGRAM: REPEAL OF THE NEW INCREMENTAL GRANT REDUCTIONS FOR CERTAIN CHILD-ONLY CASES AND REPEAL OF THE EXPANSION OF THE SHORT-TERM CHANGES

REFERENCE: Senate Bill (SB) 72 (Chapter 8, Statutes of 2011), Assembly Bill (AB) 106 (Chapter 32, Statutes of 2011); All County Letter (ACL) 11-34, ACL 11-39.

The purpose of this letter is to inform County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the repeal of the CalWORKs Incremental Grant Reductions (IGRs) and the repeal of the expansion of the Short-Term Changes (STCs) that were established by Senate Bill (SB) 72 (Chapter 8, Statutes of 2011). The portion of the STCs being repealed would have provided CWDs the option of providing a Welfare-to-Work (WTW) and time limit exemption to clients with a child between 24 and 35 months of age. These repeals are a result of the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 106 (Chapter 32, Statutes of 2011) on June 29, 2011. The instructions that were included in ACLs 11-39 and 11-34 shall not be implemented by CWDs to the extent that they were repealed by AB 106.

SB 72 included an approximate reduction of \$427 million to the CalWORKs single allocation in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. This reflected an additional reduction of approximately \$50 million from the previous year and would have provided CWDs the

option of expanding the age limits for the young child exemptions. However, AB 106 restored the \$50 million reduction and therefore made the expansion of the STCs unnecessary. The single allocation reduction will continue at the same level as in the previous year.

This letter provides guidance for CWDs in consideration of these changes to the CalWORKs program.

AB 114 (Chapter 43, Statutes of 2011) included changes to the Child Care program. These changes will be addressed under a separate ACL.

Client Impact:

If recipients received a Notice of Action (NOA) implementing an IGR, the CWD shall rescind the NOA implementing the IGR and restore the grant reduction. If the recipient requested a state hearing, the CWD may then offer a written conditional withdrawal, based upon having restored the claimant's grant.

CWDs that implemented the option to expand the young child exemption to families with children between the ages of 24 and 35 months must notify these clients of the state law change, and that they will be required to participate in WTW activities immediately. However, keep in mind that the STC young child exemptions for families with one child between the ages of 12 and 23 months or two or more children under six years of age, which were enacted in 2009 and extended in 2011, will be in effect until July 1, 2012.

Forms, NOAs and NOA Message Changes:

The following is a list of NOAs and NOA messages that have been revised, will be revised, or have been made obsolete as a result of the repeal of IGRs and repeal of the expansion of the STCs:

Have been revised (please see attachment):

- CW 2184 (7/11);
- TEMP CW 2186A (7/11);
- TEMP M40-107a (7/11).

Will be revised:

- NA 200 (4/11);
- NA 274F (6/11);
- NA 281A (6/11);
- NA 531 (4/11).

Have been made obsolete:

- NA 533 (5/11);
- NA 534 (5/11);

- NA 1242 (4/11);
- TEMP W&I 11454.025 (5/11);
- TEMP W&I 11454.025A (5/11).

CWDs shall continue to use the most current budget notices until revisions can be made and issued. Any IGR calculation lines on those budget notices shall go unused until such revisions are complete.

CalFresh Impact:

CalFresh benefits shall be prospectively recalculated accordingly based on the Assistance Unit's (AU) adjusted grant amount following the removal of the IGR. CWDs are reminded that CalFresh benefits shall not be decreased mid-quarter if the removal of the IGR results in an increase of the AU's grant amount and a decrease in CalFresh benefits.

Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP) CalWORKs Impact:

The information pertaining to IGR actions described in the "Client Impact" section of this letter above, shall be applied equally to TCVAP CalWORKs clients.

Welfare Data Tracking Implementation Project (WDTIP) and Consortia Impact:

WDTIP and the consortia systems will no longer require reprogramming to accommodate IGRs. Since IGRs will no longer be implemented, the systems will no longer need to track the time-on-aid for children. In addition, the CalWORKs 48-month time clock will continue to tick for clients who have a child between 24 and 35 months of age.

Camera Ready Copies and Translations:

For a camera-ready copy in English, contact the Forms Management Unit at fmudss@dss.ca.gov. If your office has internet access, you may obtain these forms from the [CDSS webpage](http://www.cdss.ca.gov) at http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_271.htm.

When all translations are completed per MPP Section 21-115.2, including Spanish forms, they are posted on an on-going basis on our web site. Copies of the translated forms can be obtained at http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/FormsandPu_274.htm. For questions on translated materials, please contact Language Services at (916) 651-8876. Until translations are available, clients who have elected to receive Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and written Chinese materials should be sent the GEN 1365 interpretation informing notice with a local contact number.

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If you have any questions or need further information regarding this letter, please contact your CalWORKs Eligibility County Consultant at (916) 654-1322 or your Employment Bureau County Consultant at (916) 654-2137.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

CHARR LEE METSKER
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment