



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

April 23, 2012

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 12-14

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
 ALL CDSS ADOPTIONS DISTRICT OFFICES  
 ALL COUNTY PLACEMENT SUPERVISORS  
 ALL ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES  
 ALL LICENSED ADOPTION AGENCIES  
 ALL ADOPTION SERVICE PROVIDERS

SUBJECT: ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) REGULATIONS

REFERENCE: All County Letters 09-51, AND 10-08

This letter is to notify agencies of the recent changes to the AAP regulations. The amendments ensure consistency with federal mandates and clarify current policy specific to: AAP eligibility; AAP payment amounts; AAP agreements; AAP reassessments; and nonrecurring adoption expenses. The revised regulations were finalized and submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for publication on September 29, 2011 and became effective on December 10, 2011.

For the holders of the Adoptions Users Manual, Manual Letter No. AD-11-01 may be accessed by going to the following website, and selecting the "AD-11-01" link. <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/PG612.htm>

For the holders of the Eligibility and Assistance Standards Manual, Manual Letter No. EAS-11-02 may be accessed by going to the following website, and selecting the "eas1102" link. <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/PG2836.htm>

The following sections of the Adoptions Users Manual were significantly changed:

- Section 35325 Request for Adoption Assistance

- Section 35326 AAP Eligibility
- Section 35333 Determination of Amount and Duration of AAP Benefit for All Children
- Section 35334 Benefits for a Child in a Temporary Out-of-Home Placement
- Section 35337 Content of the Adoption Assistance Agreement
- Section 35339 Deferred Payment of AAP
- Section 35343 Procedures for Reassessment of the Child's Needs
- Section 35352.1 Eligibility for Reimbursement

The following sections of the Eligibility and Assistance Standards Manual were also significantly changed:

- Section 45-802 AAP Eligibility
- Section 45-804 Payment
- Section 45-805 Reassessment
- Section 45-806 Notice of Action

If you have any inquiries, please direct all AAP questions to the Adoptions Services Bureau, at (916) 651-8089.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

GREGORY E. ROSE  
Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division