



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

June 22, 2012

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 12-30

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL TRIBAL TANF ADMINISTRATORS
ALL TRIBAL CHAIRPERSONS
ALL COUNTY TRIBAL TANF LIAISONS

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) AND CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) TIME LIMIT EXEMPTION FOR RECIPIENTS LIVING IN INDIAN COUNTRY WHERE THE UNEMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS IS 50 PERCENT OR HIGHER

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTERS (ACL) 11-41, 10-24, 09-29, 08-28E, 07-25, 06-23, 05-16, and 04-20

This letter transmits the calendar year 2011 list of California Tribal Reservations and Rancherias that have provided information on unemployment of adults at 50 percent or higher for the federal TANF and CalWORKs time limit exemption for those individuals living in Indian country.

As provided in state regulations, (Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 42-302.21(h)), and in the Code of Federal Regulations (45 CFR 286.115 (d)(3)), counties and Tribal TANF programs are required to exempt from the state and the federal time limit any month in which an individual is on aid and lives in Indian Country or an Alaskan Native Village, where at least fifty percent of the adults were not employed. In an effort to assist the counties and the Tribal TANF programs in applying this time limit exemption, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) contacted the Tribal Reservations and Rancherias throughout California and obtained information applicable to the 50 percent or higher unemployment time on aid exemption.

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

Please note that as of July 1, 2011, the CalWORKs time limit is 48 months. The federal TANF time limit for aid remains at 60 months. Instructions on the new CalWORKs time limit were issued in ACL 11-33.

The attached chart shows the Tribal Reservations and Rancherias that responded to CDSS' request and listed the unemployment of adults as fifty percent or higher during 2011. Individuals who lived in these areas during this year qualify for the time limit exemption for those specified months. If an individual lived in Indian Country in an area not listed on the attachment, the individual, the county, or the Tribal TANF program can obtain written substantiation from a Native American Tribe that the individual lived where the unemployment of adults was at least fifty percent. Upon that written substantiation, the individual will qualify for this time limit exemption.

Counties are reminded that CalWORKs applicants and recipients must be informed of all time limit requirements, including the process to claim exemptions as set forth in MPP Section 42-302.3, and must be provided information on their time on aid at specific intervals as required in MPP Section 40-107(a)(4). Those counties in which a Tribal TANF program operates may need to provide verification of clients' CalWORKs time on aid, including any time limit exemptions, to the Tribal TANF Program Administrator. The Tribal TANF Program Administrator will notify their clients of their remaining time on aid for purposes of the TANF 60-month time limit.

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

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment