



CDSS

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DIRECTOR

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

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

April 23, 2015

ALL COUNTY LETTER No. 15-38

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS
(CalWORKs): CASH AID AND PREGNANCY SPECIAL NEEDS (PSN)
FOR PREGNANT WOMEN WITH NO OTHER ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

REFERENCE: ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 1579 (CHAPTER 632, STATUTES OF 2014);
AB 1640 (CHAPTER 778, STATUTES OF 2012); WELFARE AND
INSTITUTIONS (W&I) CODE SECTION 11450(b)(1); ALL COUNTY
LETTER NO. 14-04; MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
(MPP) SECTIONS 42-711, 42-712, and 44-211.6

The purpose of this letter is to provide instructions to County Welfare Departments (CWDs) regarding the implementation of AB 1579, which is effective July 1, 2015. AB 1579 provides that a pregnant woman age 19 or older, with no other eligible children in the home, may be eligible for CalWORKs cash aid and \$47 in pregnancy special need (PSN) payments beginning in the second trimester of pregnancy. The second trimester begins at the six month period immediately prior to the month of the anticipated birth. For example, if the birth is anticipated in July, the second trimester would begin in January. Consistent with existing law, eligibility begins after verification of pregnancy is provided.

Prior to the passage of AB 1579, a pregnant woman age 19 or older with no other eligible children in the home was eligible for CalWORKs cash aid and PSN payments beginning in the third trimester of pregnancy, pursuant to MPP Section 44-211.6.

As a reminder, ACL No. 14-04 provides instructions regarding changes in eligibility for pregnant teens, age 18 or younger. AB 1640 (Chapter 778, Statutes of 2012) expanded eligibility for a pregnant teen, age 18 or younger, with no other eligible children, and who had graduated from high school or obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent. Prior to the passage of AB 1640, such pregnant teens would not be eligible for CalWORKs or PSN payments upon verification of pregnancy, unless eligible for the Cal-

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

Learn program. Under AB 1640, they are eligible for CalWORKs and the PSN payments at any time upon verification of pregnancy, and do not have to wait until the beginning of the second trimester.

Existing rules regarding Welfare-to-Work (WTW) participation requirements and exemptions will continue to apply to pregnant women with no other eligible children, including those who now qualify for CalWORKs cash aid in the second trimester of their pregnancy, pursuant to this implementing ACL. Information on WTW participation requirements and exemptions can be found in MPP Sections 42-711 and 42-712, respectively. Further information regarding the WTW exemption based on pregnancy will be forthcoming under separate cover.

Noticing Instructions

An updated Notice of Action message is attached to this letter to reflect the change in eligibility rules. The updated "M82-820A (3/15): No Eligible Person, Deny" is a required form and no substitute is permitted. Required forms may not be modified or restructured by CWDs. However, overprinting or reformatting under the conditions outlined in MPP Operations Manual Section 23-400.211, Overprinting Required Forms, and Section 23-400.212, Electronic Data Processing Modifications, is permitted.

Automation systems may need to be modified to allow CWDs to send the updated M82-820A using the NA 290 (2/14) when appropriate. Until consortia are able to automate these forms, CWDs will have to implement these forms manually.

CAMERA READY COPIES AND TRANSLATIONS

For camera-ready copies in English, contact the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) 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/FormsandPu_271.htm) 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 the CDSS webpage. 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 CDSS Language Services at (916) 651-8876. Until translations are available, recipients who have elected to receive materials in languages other than English should be sent the English version of the form

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or notice along with the [GEN 1365 \(3/08\) - Notice of Language Services](#) and a local contact number.

The CWDs shall ensure that effective bilingual services are provided. This requirement may be met through utilization of paid interpreters, qualified bilingual employees, and qualified employees of other agencies or community resources. These services shall be provided free of charge to the applicant/recipient. In the event that CDSS does not provide translations of a form, it is the CWD's responsibility to provide translation services if an applicant or recipient requests it. More information regarding translations can be found in MPP Section 21-115.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

State of California
Department of Social Services

Noa Msg Doc No.: M82-820A Page 1 of 1
Action : Deny
Issue: AU Composition
Title: No Eligible Person

Auto ID No.:
Source :
Issued by :
Reg Cite : 82-820.2

Use Form No. : NA 290
Original Date : 08-1-91
Revision Date : 03-01-15

MESSAGE:

The County has denied your application for cash aid dated _____.

Here's why:

To get aid, there must be at least one of the following persons living in the home:

An eligible child, or

A caretaker relative of an SSI/SSP child, or

A caretaker relative of a dependent foster care child, or

A caretaker relative of a Kin-GAP child, or

A pregnant teen under age 20 without a high school diploma or its equivalent, or

A pregnant woman who is four months or more pregnant, or

A parent of a child who is sanctioned by the CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work Program.

INSTRUCTIONS: Use to deny CalWORKs when there is no eligible person in the home after July 1, 2015. In the action line, enter the date of application.

This message replaces M82-820A dated 05-01-98.

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