

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



May 30, 2004

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 04-20

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL WELFARE TO WORK COORDINATORS  
ALL TRIBAL CHAIRPERSONS

**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: TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) AND CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) 60-MONTH TIME LIMIT EXEMPTION FOR CalWORKs RECIPIENTS LIVING IN INDIAN COUNTRY WHERE THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS FIFTY PERCENT OR HIGHER

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTERS 02-91 AND 03-37

This letter transmits the 2003 list of California Tribal Reservations and Rancherias that have provided information on unemployment rates of fifty percent or higher for the 60-month time limit exemption for those individuals living in Indian Country. This unemployment rate information is provided in order for counties to apply the 60-month time limit exemption in the most efficient manner.

As provided in state regulations, MPP section 42-302.21(h), counties are required to exempt from the 60-month time limit any month in which an individual lives in Indian Country or an Alaskan native village, where the unemployment rate is fifty percent or higher. In addition, counties have to obtain the required information on unemployment rates through the governing body of each tribal land.

In an effort to assist the counties in applying this time limit exemption, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) contacted the Tribal Reservations/Rancherias throughout California and obtained their unemployment rates. CDSS will be providing counties with the latest unemployment rate information on an annual basis to assist counties with the application of the exemption.

The attached chart shows the Tribal Reservations/Rancherias that responded to CDSS' request and listed their unemployment rate as fifty percent or higher during the year 2003. Individuals who lived in these areas qualify for the time limit exemption during this year. If an individual disagrees with the attached chart and can provide documentation from a Native American Tribe, substantiating that she/he lived in Indian Country where the unemployment rate was at least fifty percent, she/he will also 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 40-107.14 et seq. Those counties in which a Tribal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (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 60-month time limits, please contact Charissa S. Miguelino, CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau, at (916) 657-3665.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by  
Bruce Wagstaff on May 30, 2004*

BRUCE WAGSTAFF  
Deputy Director  
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

c: CWDA  
CSAC