

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 13, 2005

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 05-16

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 COUNTY WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL TRIBAL CHAIRPERSONS

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 04-20, 03-37, 02-91

This letter transmits the calendar year 2004 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.

As provided in state regulations, Manual of Policies and Procedures (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 an effort to assist the counties in applying this time limit exemption, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) contacted the tribal reservations and rancherias throughout California and obtained their unemployment rates.

The attached chart shows the Tribal Reservations and Rancherias that responded to CDSS' request and listed their unemployment rate as fifty percent or higher during 2004. Individuals who lived in these areas qualify for the time limit exemption during this year. If individuals disagree with the information on the attached chart, and can provide documentation from a Native American Tribe substantiating that they lived in Indian country where the unemployment rate was at least fifty percent, they 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(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 60-month time limits, please contact your CalWORKs Eligibility County Consultant.

Sincerely,

CHARR LEE METSKER
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

c: CWDA
CSAC