DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

July 2, 1997



ALL COUNTY LETTER 97-38

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS ALL COUNTY AFDC PROGRAM SPECIALISTS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL
[] State Law Change
[] Federal Law or Regulation
Change
[] Court Order
[] Clarification Requested by
One or More Counties
[X] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT:

PROPERTY LIMIT EXCLUSIONS FOR SPECIALIZED ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED BY AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC) APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS BECAUSE OF THEIR DISABILITIES OR THEIR CHILDREN'S DISABILITIES.

REFERENCE: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

The purpose of this notice is to ensure that counties are aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirement to exclude the value of specialized adaptive equipment required for use by AFDC applicants and recipients with disabilities or their children who have disabilities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) signed into law in 1990 requires that persons with disabilities have an equal opportunity to receive the same benefits as persons without disabilities. In order not to disadvantage a person with a disability from being eligible for aid, the value of the adaptive equipment the person requires must not be considered.

In reference to the general property limits, the value of a wheelchair or other devices required for use by an AFDC applicant or recipient with a disability is excluded. When determining the value of a motor vehicle that is specially equipped for a person with a disability, the special equipment is not considered to increase the value of the vehicle. If the adaptive equipment is required for the recipient caretaker relative to transport a disabled child or children, the adaptive equipment is not considered to increase the value of the vehicle.

The CDSS intends to promulgate regulations addressing these requirements. However, in the interim, the ADA directive set forth in this letter must be followed. If you have further questions regarding this information, please contact Henry Puga at (916) 654-1068 or CALNET 464-1068.

Sincerely,

BRUCE WAGSTAFF

Deputy Director

Welfare Programs Division

Bruce Wagtaff