

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 3, 1998

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 98-13

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CFAP) REPORTING

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-52-97, dated August 19, 1997
 ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 97-50, dated September 3, 1997
 ACL 97-77, dated December 11, 1997
 ACL 97-84, dated December 31, 1997

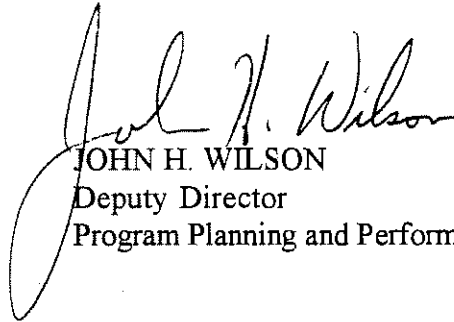
California implemented the CFAP on September 1, 1997. As transmitted in ACL 97-50, the California Department of Social Services received a six-month approval from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for a temporary benefit calculation methodology to determine the federal and state share of benefits for CFAP. This methodology expired on February 28, 1998. Counties were advised in ACL 97-84 (December 31, 1997) to use a new budget methodology to calculate the actual federal and actual state coupon value for the CFAP.

As a result of the new budget methodology, counties will now report on the DFA 256 - Food Stamp Program Participation and Coupon Issuance Report the actual federal and actual state benefit amounts issued to households composed of federal and state persons. This is a major change from the previous six months whereby counties only had to report the total benefit amount issued to these combined households. Beginning in March 1998, counties are to report on the **DFA 256, Line 3** - Value of Documented Coupon Issuances, in the Federal/State column, the actual federal and actual state amounts issued during the month to these combined households. The DFA 256 report will be revised to reflect this change. Until the form is revised, counties should report on Line 3 of the DFA 256 report, **in the Federal/State column**, both the actual federal and actual state amount issued to combined households during the report month.

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As a reminder, the DFA 256 is due by the 20th day after the report month. Counties that have not submitted their reports for the months of September 1997 - January 1998 should do so immediately.

Further information and reporting instructions concerning CFAP will be issued in a subsequent ACL. If you have program questions concerning CFAP, please contact Julie Andrews in the Food Stamp Bureau at (916) 654-1896. Questions regarding food stamp reporting should be directed to Virginia Uchida, Data Operations Branch, at (916) 657-3289.



JOHN H. WILSON
Deputy Director
Program Planning and Performance Division

c: CWDA