

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



October 27, 1998

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 98-85

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
 ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS

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: COLLEGE WORK-STUDY INCOME

REFERENCE: MPP SECTION 44-111.25

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the proper treatment of income from college work-study programs when computing eligibility and grant computation for CalWORKs. Several counties have inquired whether income from the CalWORKs College Work-Study Program is exempt.

Funding was provided in the annual Budget Act for community colleges to provide services, including work-study, to welfare recipients who are students. These work-study jobs must be with employers who currently participate in campus-based work-study programs or are providing work experiences that are directly related to and promote student educational programs. The identification of a viable work-study will be determined by the community colleges. The community colleges pay up to 75 percent of the wage for the work-study positions and the employers pay at least 25 percent of the wage. The California Community Colleges, Chancellors Office, refers to the new program as CalWORKs College Work-Study, however, reference to the new program, by community colleges, may be made under various names such as CalWORKs @ Work 75/25 program.

Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) Section 44-111.25 states that earned income from the College Work-Study Program is exempt. The current California Department of Social Services (CDSS) interpretation of this section is that earned income from any College Work-Study Program continues to be exempt as income or property. Therefore, earned income from the CalWORKs College Work-Study Program, as well as any other work-study program, is exempt. This exemption applies to any person whose income is considered for eligibility determination and grant computation. However, because only CalWORKs recipients are eligible for the CalWORKs work-study, the exemption of income from that program would only apply to recipients.

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Any questions regarding the treatment of income from work-study programs may be directed to Shirley Ruiz (916) 654-6127 or CALNET at 454-6127.

Sincerely

***Original Document Signed By***

***Bruce Wagstaff on 10/27/98***

BRUCE WAGSTAFF

Deputy Director

Welfare to Work Division

c: CWDA  
CSAC