



CDSS

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DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

July 5, 2017

ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 17-67

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
 ALL CDSS ADOPTIONS DISTRICT OFFICES  
 ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS  
 ALL ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES  
 ALL COUNTY PLACEMENT SUPERVISORS  
 ALL TITLE IV-E AGREEMENT TRIBES

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON THE “SUPPLEMENT TO THE RATE QUESTIONNAIRE”, SOC 837 FORM, FOR DUAL AGENCY AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN-FOSTER CARE (AFDC-FC), ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP), AND KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (KIN-GAP) CHILDREN

REFERENCE: [SENATE BILL 84, CHAPTER 177, STATUTES OF 2007](#)  
[ACL NO. 08-17, DATED MARCH 29, 2008](#)  
[ACL NO. 08-54, DATED DECEMBER 1, 2008](#)  
[ACL NO. 10-16, DATED JUNE 14, 2010](#)  
[ACL NO. 16-54, DATED JUNE 27, 2016;](#)  
[WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTION 11464](#)

The purpose of this ACL is to provide clarification to counties requesting information from and working with the California Regional Centers to assist in completing the “Supplement to the Rate Questionnaire” (SOC 837) used to determine eligibility for the supplement established by WIC section 11464, subdivision (c)(2)(A). Per this statute, a county may authorize a supplement of up to \$1,000 for children three years of age and older if a county determines a supplement to the dual agency rate is necessary due to a child’s need for extraordinary care and supervision for AFDC-FC, AAP and Kin-GAP children.

The clarification provided in this ACL also replaces the responses given to questions 28, 29, and 31 previously addressed in ACL No.10-16, dated June 14, 2010. Please note, all other information contained in ACL No. 10-16 remains current and should continue to be referenced. (See <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acl/2010/10-16.pdf>.)

The SOC 837 questionnaire is a CDSS form used to gather objective criteria about a dual agency child's care and supervision needs so that a county can determine the child's eligibility for a supplement to the rate and the appropriate supplement level. WIC section 11464, subdivision (c)(2)(C) requires the county to issue an eligibility determination within 90 days from the receipt of the request for a supplement to the rate. The failure of the regional center to sign the SOC 837 or to provide information for the assessment of the child's needs shall not relieve the county from timely completion of the assessment. Counties shall continue with and finalize their assessment and eligibility determination for a supplement to the dual agency rate and appropriate level of the supplement based on the extraordinary care and supervision needs of a dual agency child in consultation with California Regional Centers.

If after ten (10) business days a regional center has not provided information to assist a county in their completion of the SOC 837, the county shall continue to process the request using other available information. The county must collect information from other professionals and the caregiver or adoptive parent for the completion of the SOC 837 and issue an eligibility determination for a supplement to the rate within the 90-day timeframe based on the most current information available about the dual agency child. The county must notify the CDSS Foster Care Rates Bureau when a regional center refuses to sign the SOC 837 or provide information regarding the child in a timely manner. The CDSS may revise the SOC 837 to conform to any changes identified in this ACL in consultation with counties, advocates, stakeholders and regional centers.

The CDSS encourages continued collaboration between county CWS agencies and California Regional Centers to assist in the determination of the supplement to the rate assessment process to ensure dual agency children receive the services and support they need in a timely manner. If you have any questions about this ACL, please contact the Foster Care Rates Bureau at (916) 651-9152.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

GREGORY E. ROSE  
Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division