

CalSAWS

California Statewide Automated Welfare System

Design Document

CA-219543 | CIV-108152

Test Effort for the CalFresh SSA COLA

(Deferred to 03/2022)

CalSAWS	DOCUMENT APPROVAL HISTORY	
	Prepared By	Barillas Michael
	Reviewed By	Dana Peterson, Amy Gill, Balakumar Murthy

DATE	DOCUMENT VERSION	REVISION DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR
11/14/2020	1.0	Initial Design	Michael Barillas
3/11/2021	2.0	Revisions based on change being deferred to 03/2022. This SCR is repurposed for Test efforts.	Amy Gill
3/12/2021	3.0	Updated Case ID field length	Amy Gill
3/16/2021	4.0	Updated Inbound Case ID length based on feedback from DHCS	Amy Gill
4/23/2021	5.0	Content Revision to include Verification record in DCR	Amy Gill

Table of Contents

1	Overview	4
	1.1 Current Design.....	4
	1.2 Requests.....	4
	1.3 Overview of Recommendations.....	4
	1.4 Assumptions	5
2	Recommendations.....	6
	2.1 Create a new MEDS Outbound SSI/SSP COLA Request File	6
	2.1.1 Overview	6
	2.1.2 Description of Change.....	6
	2.1.3 Estimated Number of Records Impacted/Performance.....	7
	2.2 Process the new Inbound MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Response File (Test Only)	7
	2.2.1 Overview	7
	2.2.2 Description of Change.....	7
	2.2.3 Estimated Number of Records Impacted/Performance.....	10
3	Requirements.....	10
	3.1 Project Requirements.....	10
4	Outreach (Test Only)	11
	4.1 Lists.....	11

1 OVERVIEW

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplementary Payment (SSP) income, recorded on the Other Program Assistance (OPA) page, is not automatically updated when the SSA COLA changes are applied to the Systems.

AB 1811 reversed the CalFresh (CF) eligibility policy known as “cash-out,” under which SSI/SSP recipients were ineligible for CF. SSI/SSP income is now countable as Unearned Income in the CF budget determination.

This SCR will provide a proof of concept for testing with MEDS to update the OPA records of types ‘SSI/SSP’ and ‘SSI Only’ with the SSI and/or SSP income information received from the MEDS.

1.1 Current Design

SSI/SSP assistance is not automatically updated when the Social Security Administration (SSA) Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) changes are applied to the Systems.

1.2 Requests

This SCR is to test a proof of concept with MEDS to prepare for the CalFresh SSA COLA which has been deferred to March 2022.

The Systems will generate and send a file to MEDS containing CalFresh persons receiving SSI or SSI/SSP Income. After sending the file, MEDS will provide a one-time response file that includes elements in the initial outbound file, as well as additional SSI and/or SSP payment amounts. CalSAWS will process the inbound file and update OPA records with the new SSI or SSI/SSP amounts. CalSAWS will generate an exceptions list containing records that could not be processed.

1.3 Overview of Recommendations

For testing purposes only:

1. Create a one-time outbound file for CalFresh persons receiving SSI or SSI/SSP Income and send to MEDS.
2. Process a one-time Inbound MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Response File containing the data in the CalSAWS outbound file as well as additional SSI and/or SSP Payment Amounts.
3. Create an exceptions list for all unprocessed records in the Inbound MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Response File.

Note: The file will not be implemented in Production at this time. This effort is only to test the proof of concept and validate the data exchanged with MEDS. Production effort is deferred until March 2022.

1.4 Assumptions

1. There is no 2021 COLA for State Supplementary Payment (SSP) amounts. Persons with OPA records of 'SSP Only' (CalSAWS only) will not be included in the file exchange with MEDS and data update.
2. Batch EDBC run will be implemented with CA-222221 for CF programs with a person for whom the data change was processed from Section 2.2.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Create a new MEDS Outbound SSI/SSP COLA Request File

2.1.1 Overview

For testing purposes, create a one-time outbound file to send to MEDS containing CalFresh persons receiving SSI or SSI/SSP Income.

2.1.2 Description of Change

1. Create a new MEDS SSI/SSP Data table to store the data provided to MEDS.
2. Create a database script to populate a one-time outbound file to MEDS for all CalFresh Persons receiving SSI or SSI/SSP Income. This one-time file will include the following population:
 - a. Active CalFresh persons who are active as of May 1, 2021
 - b. Have an open (high-dated) OPA record of type SSI Only or SSI/SSP.
3. The Outbound File will be a pipe-delimited flat text file. The File will have a Header with the following format:
 - a. **[CONSORTIUM]_Annual SSI COLA_YYYY_MMDDYY**
 - i. **[CONSORTIUM] (CalSAWS/CIV/CalWIN)**
 - ii. **YYYY (Calendar Year)**
 - iii. **MMDDYY (File Process Date)**
4. The File Body Contents will have the following format and order:

Outbound Data Elements	Description	Field Length and Formatting
Case ID	This column can be used by each SAWS to identify the person or case within the SAWS System. C-IV and CalSAWS will use this element to pass in the Person Unique ID.	10 – Pad with trailing spaces to meet fixed length of 10
County Code	County Code of the County of Responsibility	2
Last Name	Beneficiary's Last Name	Variable

Outbound Data Elements	Description	Field Length and Formatting
First Name	Beneficiary's First Name	Variable
Middle Initial	Beneficiary's Middle Initial	Variable
Social Security Number (SSN)	Beneficiary's SSN	9
CIN	Beneficiary's CIN	9
DOB	Beneficiary's DOB	8(MMDDYYYY)

5. The File will have a Trailer section in the following format:

a. SSI Annual COLA_[Record Count]

i. [Record Count] - The number of records in the file's body section.

2.1.3 Estimated Number of Records Impacted/Performance

Approximately 340,000 records across all 40 Counties:

CalSAWS: ~ 210,000 records

C-IV: ~ 130,000 records

2.2 Process the new Inbound MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Response File (Test Only)

2.2.1 Overview

After receiving the initial Request file from the SAWS outlined in section 2.1, MEDS will provide the SAWS with a one-time Response file that includes the elements outlined in the Request file, as well as additional SSI and/or SSP Payment Amounts.

For testing purposes, process the inbound file, update OPA records for SSI Only or SSI/SSP Amount and create a journal entry for cases in which the OPA records were automated.

2.2.2 Description of Change

1. Retrieve and process the Inbound File. The file will be a pipe-delimited flat text file. Store the data received in the new MEDS SSI/SSP Data table for subsequent processing
 - a. The File will have a Header with the following format:
 - i. **<CONSORTIUM>_ANNUAL_SSI_COLA_<YEAR>_<FILEDATE>_DHCS RESPONSE**
 - ii. **<CONSORTIUM> (CalSAWS or C-IV)**

- iii. <YEAR> - 2021
 - iv. <FILEDATE> - Date of File Creation
- b. The File Body Contents will have the following Format:

Inbound Data Elements	Description	Field Length and Formatting
Case ID	This column can be used by each SAWS to identify the person or case within the SAWS System. C-IV and CalSAWS will use this element to pass in the Person Unique ID.	Up to 10 – DHCS will remove trailing spaces
County Code	County Code of the County of Responsibility	2
Last Name	Beneficiary's Last Name	Variable
First Name	Beneficiary's First Name	Variable
Middle Initial	Beneficiary's Middle Initial	Variable
SSN	Beneficiary's SSN	9
CIN	Beneficiary's CIN	9
DOB	Beneficiary's DOB	8(MMDDYYYY)
MEDS SSI Paid Amt	This data element identifies the cumulative Federal SSI payment(s) actually paid to the recipient under Title XVI.	7 xxxx.xx
MEDS SSP Paid Amt	This data element identifies the cumulative State supplementation payment(s) actually paid to the recipient in the current SDX month.	7 xxxx.xx

- c. The File will have a Trailer section in the following format:
- i. **Annual SSI Cola_<record count>**
 - 1. <record count> - The number of records in the file's body section.

2. Create a DCR to process records within the inbound file and update the OPA records for persons who are Active on a CF program as of May 1, 2021 and have a high-dated OPA record.
 - a. Requirements to Process Record
 - i. MEDS Record Types must match the nature of the systems record type. Example: If the existing record in the System is SSI Only, the MEDS SSI Paid Amt must not be blank and the MEDS SSP Paid Amt must be blank or 0.
 - ii. If the SSI and/or SSP amounts from MEDS match the amounts currently captured in CalSAWS, do not update the existing high dated OPA record and do not add to the exceptions list.
Note: Only CF programs with a person for whom the data change is processed will be included in the Batch EDBC run.
 - iii. For any records that do not fall under the categories above, the record will be added to the 'MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Exception List' (Section 4.1).
 - b. DCR Requirements **(Test only)**
 - i. End-Date the existing OPA Record with an end-date of 4/30/2021.
 - ii. Copy the data elements from the previous OPA record, making the following updates:
 1. Set the Begin Date to 5/1/2021
 2. Set the End Date to "High Date" (the record will be open-ended).
 3. If the existing OPA record is of type: "SSI Only":
 - a. Set the 'Amount or Value of Services' (DOLLAR_AMT) to the MEDS SSI Paid Amt. A value of 0 is acceptable for 'MEDS SSI Paid Amt'.
 4. If the existing OPA record is of type: "SSI/SSP":
 - a. Set the SSI Payment to the MEDS SSI Paid Amt.
 - b. Set the SSP Payment to the MEDS SSP Paid Amt.
 - c. Set the 'DEEM_INC_AMT' with the total sum of 'SSI_PMT' and 'SSP_PMT'.
 5. Create a Verification record associated to the OPA record.
 - a. Set the Verification Status to 'Verified'
 - b. Set the Verification Request Date, Due Date, and Received Date to system date.

Note: The data change will not be implemented in Production at this time. This effort is only to test the proof of concept and validate the data exchanged with MEDS. Production effort is deferred until March 2022.

3. Create a DCR **(Test Only)** to add a new Journal Entry for cases in which the data change was processed for at least one person. The person is Active as of May 1, 2021 on a CalFresh program on the case. The Journal will have the following details. One journal entry per case will be made:
 - a. Long Description: Other Program Assistance entries for <Person Names> have been automatically updated via Batch to reflect data received from MEDS for the 2021 CalFresh SSI/SSP COLA on <Process Date>.
 - b. Short Description: SSA COLA Other Program Assistance Record Update
 - c. Type Code: Interfaces
 - d. Filter Code: Interfaces
4. Conduct a test exchange file with MEDS.

2.2.3 Estimated Number of Records Impacted/Performance

Approximately 340,000 records across all 40 Counties:

CalSAWS: ~ 210,000 records

C-IV: ~ 130,000 records

3 REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Project Requirements

REQ #	REQUIREMENT TEXT	How Requirement Met
2.20.1.4	The LRS shall match LRS Data from external interfaces to an applicant s or participant s case record and update the LRS database when appropriate.	This SCR is updating SSI only and SSI/SSP amount values in accordance to the values returned by MEDS.

4 OUTREACH (TEST ONLY)

4.1 Lists

This list includes records received via the MEDS SSI/SSP COLA file that could not be processed.

List Name: MEDS SSI/SSP COLA Exception List

List Criteria: This list includes records received via the MEDS SSI/SSP COLA file in which the SSI/SSP information does not match the between MEDS and the System. For example, the person has an 'SSI Only' OPA record in the System but the return file included an SSP Paid Amount. Also includes records that could not be automatically updated due to some other reason, such as the System has more than one ongoing type of OPA record, and the System is unable to determine which OPA record to update.

Standard Columns:

- Case Name
- Case Number
- County
- Unit
- Unit Name
- Office Name
- Worker
- Benefit Month

Additional Column(s):

- CIN
- Last Name
- First Name
- Middle Initial
- MEDS SSI Paid Amount
- MEDS SSP Paid Amount

Frequency: One-time

The list will not be posted to the web portal as this effort is for testing only.