

# A Message From the Director



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CalSAWS

As we ride our final wave of change into the fall season, the reality and completion of the move to a single eligibility system in California is just around the corner. Our Wave 5 Counties successfully went live on September 4th, and we have now successfully transitioned 55 of the 58 counties to CalSAWS! Last, but certainly not least, it's time for Wave 6 Counties to make the transition on October 30<sup>th</sup>! Training activities are currently underway, and your Counties are working hard to complete conversion and other Go-Live preparation activities with the Project Team.

This issue of the CalSAWS Scoop helps get you ready for the transition to CalSAWS. The Scoop provides information about your post-implementation support, Go-Live readiness packet, CalSAWS spotlight, CalSAWS tips and soundbites from Wave 5's Go-Live.

I want to thank you all for your continued hard work preparing for the migration to CalSAWS. The Power of 58 is more important than ever as the CalSAWS team and Counties work together to get us to ONE!

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### CalSAWS Spotlight: Employment Services

Employment Services is the process associated with the Welfare to Work (WTW) program and Customer activities associated with a Customer's participation in the program.

### Below are two key changes impacting Employment Services:

### 1. Automatic Status for Welfare to Work (WTW)



CalSAWS has functionality to auto-determine whether someone is exempt from WTW participation. The WTW status is set to Exempt automatically if one of the following conditions is met:

- Physically/Mentally Incapacitated
- 16-18 Child Enrollment in School Full-Time
- 60 Years of Age or Older
- Child Under 16
- Receiving Federal Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

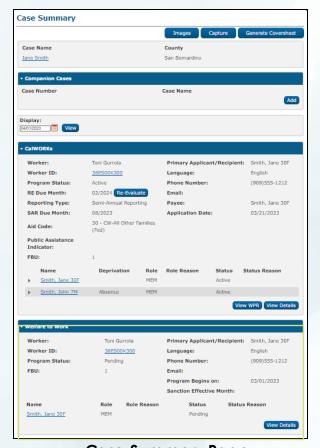
**Note:** If the participant is exempt from participation for reasons other than what are listed above the worker needs to manually add or edit the Work Registration and Program records.

### 2. Automatic Creation of WTW Program

CalSAWS automatically adds a WTW program for an individual if a worker indicates that the applicant is a mandatory participant during Data Collection. The WTW block generates after CalWORKs Eligibility Determination and Benefit Calculation (EDBC) is run, accepted, and saved.



CalWORKs EDBC Summary



Case Summary Page

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### **Disable Popup Blockers**

Web Browser Popup Blockers should be disabled when using CalSAWS. If popup blockers are enabled, CalSAWS popup windows will not be displayed for the user.



### **Adding Household Members**

Remember to add all household members to the application. Applications may fail for not requesting aid when all household members are not added to the application in CalSAWS. You can add a person from the **New Person Search** page.



### Manual EDBC

EDBC must be run manually for ongoing programs for months prior to conversion. The Manual EDBC process lets workers create a manual EDBC when the system data is incomplete or unavailable. Manual EDBC is run by clicking 'Create Manual EDBC' on the **Create Manual EDBC** page. Select **Manual EDBC** from the Task navigation bar to access the page.



### Foster Care Main Payroll

In CalSAWS, Foster Care (FC) Main Payroll for Foster Care benefits (including Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) benefits) are generated the 1st business day of the month following the payment benefit month (exception: Alameda and Sacramento County's Main Payroll runs on the 5th business day of the month due to their child placement verification process). Ex., March FC benefits main payroll runs the 1st business day in April. In CalSAWS, FC main payroll issuances can be found on the Main Payroll Foster Care Issuance Summary page, Main Payroll Foster Care Warrant Register page, and the Main Payroll Warrant Production Reconciliation reports. Reports are available the day after the main payroll run.



### **Processing Applicant IEVS**

In CalSAWS, applicant IEVS are received automatically and available on the IEVS List page. Select IEVS List from the Task navigation bar to access the page. Additionally, when pending an application in CalSAWS with sufficient information, CalSAWS automatically requests the applicant IEVS.



### **MAGI Determinations**

MAGI referrals are sent to CalSAWS and queued up through the day via the MAGI Referral Search page. CalHEERS information can be viewed on the MAGI Determination List page and the Inter-Agency Transfer Summary page. Both pages are accessible from the Task navigation bar when in the context of a case.

### **Post-Implementation Support**

**Post-Implementation Support** helps your County after Go-Live. The support team will assist your migration to CalSAWS from October 30<sup>th</sup> – December 29<sup>th</sup>.



#### The Insider Scoop:

Post-Implementation support is provided in person and virtually.



### **Self-Support Resources**

For CalSAWS questions, review the self-service resources which include:

- LMS and Web-Based Trainings
- FAQs and Fact Sheets
- Online Help
- Infographics and Newsletters
- Go-Live Packet
- County Intranet (and any other CalSAWS resources provided by your County)

If your question is not resolved, please contact County Support.



### **County Support**

County Support is the second line of support for Staff. Members include:

- Lead Workers and Supervisors
- Change Network Champions (CNCs)
- Implementation Points of Contact (IPOCs), Technical Points of Contact (TPOCs), and Primary Points of Contact (PPOCs)
- County Help Desk

County Support will escalate unresolved questions to Onsite Support and/or Help Desk, if needed.



### **Project Post-Implementation Support**

Project Onsite Support will be in select County offices throughout the Post-Implementation period. Onsite Support is available for assistance if you have questions or require additional help navigating CalSAWS.

The County Help Desk will also have additional project support through Virtual Support channels. Be sure to follow your County escalation procedures – and we look forward to supporting you throughout the Wave 6 Go-Live!

Look for Onsite Support Teams coming to your office!

### **Go-Live Packet**

The Go-Live Packet is a compilation of information across the CalSAWS Project to help prepare staff for the migration to CalSAWS.

### Purpose of the Go-Live Packet (GLP)



The Go-Live Packet provides information to enable you to help yourself as much as possible and know where to turn for additional information if needed.

Sections are grouped by program or area of CalSAWS to make it easy to find what you need. Supplemental documents and references to various project resources are also included.

### **Go-Live Packet Sections**



The Go-Live Packet has three major sections:

#### What I Need to Act On

Contains the following sections:

- Priority
  - Case Review Guides (CRGs) describing immediate actions for Counties post-Go-Live
- Non-Priority
  - Informational only or items requiring actions encountered as part of ongoing casework

#### What I Need to Know

Contains the following sections:

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- References to Self-Guided Resources and Trainings
  - Includes project trainings and other resources
- Known Items for Awareness
  - For example, some converted cases may display multiple companion cases

### Where Can I Get Help?

Contains the following sections:

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Post Go-Live Support
  - Level 1 Self Support Resources
  - Level 2 County Support
  - Level 3 Project Onsite and Virtual Support
- Support Communications

### Receiving the Go-Live Packet

The Project will conduct Orientation Sessions to give users an overview of the Go-Live Packet (GLP). During Training Practice Labs, users can get additional help on GLP usage.

**Note**: The GLP is distributed via CalSAWS Information Transmittal (CIT) 3 weeks before Go-Live. Content is refreshed after Go-Live and redistributed. Please refer to your County's communication structure or contact your County PPOCs for more information on the packet.

September 2023

### The County Scoop: Soundbites from Wave 5

Alameda, Fresno, and Sonoma successfully joined CalSAWS on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023!

Here's what Wave 5 County staff are saying about CalSAWS!

#### **CalSAWS Benefits**

- "Not having UEMs."
- "One of our clients submitted a SAR7 through BenefitsCal and the worker got a task right away."
- "No forced navigation!"
- "It's built to tell you more information. There are soft and hard validations, and it directs you to what windows you need to visit."
- "Built-in resources that are up-to-date."
- "Intuitive steps and processes."

### Go-Live Tips for Wave 6

- "Everyone is communicating what they are learning."
- "Overall, we have been trying to message that it will take longer to do work to take pressure off staff. Taking it one case at a time."
- "Review the Go-Live packet two or three times and ask questions. So much of what you'll need is there."
- "Refer to the CDG's to review new terminology. Knowing the terms saves time."

### **Helpful Go-Live Resources**

- "The Onsite Support team members have been wonderful"
- "The Job Aids are great. We know we can find answers in them."
- "The Virtual Assistant can be quickly accessed, and staff are already making use of this resource."



Alameda County bulletin board



Fresno County Aloha theme



Sonoma County
Change Network Champions!

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



### How long is Post-Implementation support available?

Post-Implementation support is available for 60 days (October 30<sup>th</sup> – December 29th) after Go-Live. Onsite teams are available during regular business hours in select offices.



### Will case numbers stay the same after converting from CalWIN to CalSAWS?

Yes. Case numbers from existing cases in CalWIN will stay the same after converting to CalSAWS.



### What resources will I have to help me find answers to CalSAWS questions?

Some resources that can help you to find answers include Web-Based Trainings, FAQs, Job Aids, Fact Sheets, Online Help, Infographics, Newsletters, the Go-Live Packet, your County Intranet and other CalSAWS resources provided by your County.



### What are some ways I can get ready for CalSAWS other than training?

There are many ways to get ready for CalSAWS! Stay up to date with CalSAWS communications and any updates from your supervisor, manager, and/or Change Network Champions. Get comfortable navigating resources, and feel free to practice in the Sandbox!

### Resources



### Website

CalSAWS.org



### Videos

- CalSAWS Welcome Home
- CalSAWS The Journey to One
- History of Statewide **Automated Welfare**
- The CalSAWS Sphere



If you have any questions, please reach out to your County's Primary Point of Contact (PPOC) or Implementation Point of Contact (IPOC).

