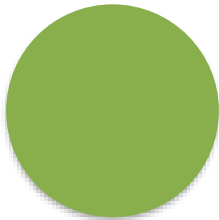




CalSAWS | Policy Update



July 2024

Policy Update

CalWORKs - ACL 24-37 – Cost of Living (COLA) Increase to Minimum Basics Standards of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and Income in Kind for 2024-2025

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS	Implementation Details
July 1, 2024 ACL 24-37	CA-257178 Implemented Release 24.05 (6/13/24)	<p>The Fiscal Year 2024-25 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increases the MBSAC and IIK levels by 6.85 percent. The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2024.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the system with new MBSAC figures• Update the system income in-kind values for CalWORKs and RCA with new figures• Provide a list of cases with saved EDBC that have been denied due to failing the applicant financial eligibility test through MBSAC for benefit months May, June, or July 2024, and whose income is potentially below the new MBSAC amount. <p>Note: A CIT will be published when the list is available.</p> <p>CalSAWS County Business Impact: Inform staff about the change to the MBSAC and IIK values and review the case on the on the list cases referenced in the CIT.</p>

Policy Update

CalWORKs - ACL 24-36 Vehicle Value Limit Increase For CalWORKs/RCA/TCVAP

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS	Implementation Details
July 1, 2024 ACL 24-36	CA-278070 Build Release 24.06 (7/11/24)	<p>Effective July 1, 2024, the maximum value allowed for non-exempt vehicles will increase by 2.88 percent, per the increase reflected in the CPI-U. The new maximum non-exempt vehicle value limit will be \$32,968. The equity value for each motor vehicle in excess of \$32,968 will be counted towards the maximum asset limit for CalWORKs, for applicants and recipients.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update CW/RCA EDBC rules to apply vehicle property limit amounts for Motor Vehicle Disregard to perform calculations based on the new limit. <p>CalSAWS County Business Impact: Inform staff about the increase property values and applicable system update.</p>

Policy Update

CalWORKs – MAP and IRT Increase for 2024

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
10/1/2024 Policy letters are pending	CA-257180 New Release 24.07 Priority -9/12/24 CA-257179 New Release 24.07 Priority -9/14/24	<p>The following are increasing effective October 1, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CalWORKs (CW) maximum aid payments (MAP) are increasing.• CW Income Reporting Threshold (IRT) are increasing. Under the Semi-Annual(SAR) and Annual /Child-Only (AR/CO) reporting, recipients are required to report when the assistance unit's total income exceed the IRT. <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the CW MAP amounts• Update the CW IRT values• Update the applicable NOA snippets• Run batch EDBC on the impacted cases to establish new benefit amounts <p>County Business Process Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform staff of the increased MAP amounts and IRT values• Manually process the cases not processed in the batch EDBC Batch <p>EDBC memorandum will be provided via CalSAWS Information Transmittal (CIT) counties mid to late August. The batch EDBC memorandum provides details on the batch EDBC process, timeline, and county action for cases not processed by batch EDBC.</p>

Policy Update

CalFresh – 2024 Cost of Living Adjustment

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
10/1/2024 Policy letter is pending	CA-257180 New Release 24.07 Priority -9/12/24 CA-257179 New Release 24.07 Priority -9/14/24	<p>Effective October 1, 2024, the CalFresh (CF) maximum allotments, deduction amounts, including the, Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) and Limited Utility Allowance (LUA), and income eligibility standards will increase.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the CF allotment, SUA, LUA and income eligibility standard values• Update the applicable NOA snippets• Run batch EDBC on the impacted cases to establish new benefit amounts <p>County Business Process Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform staff of the increased CF values.• Manually process the cases not processed in the batch EDBC Batch <p>EDBC memorandum will be provided via CalSAWS Information Transmittal (CIT) counties mid to late August. The batch EDBC memorandum provides details on the batch EDBC process, timeline, and county action for cases not processed by batch EDBC.</p>

Policy Update

CalFresh - Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD)

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
9/1/2023 ACL 23-80	<p>SCR CA-266312 Implemented Release 24.03</p> <p>SCR CA-215950 Ready for Committee Release 24.09</p> <p>SCR CA-228131 New Release 24.07 (Priority in September)</p>	<p>On June 3, 2023, the President signed into law the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (FRA), which enacts three new changes to the ABAWD time limit policy. These changes include gradually increasing the age of those subject to the ABAWD time limit, adding new exemption criteria, and limiting states' ability to accrue and carry over discretionary exemptions.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the age limit requirements to gradually increase the age of those subject to the ABAWD time limit.• Add new ABAWD requirements to exempt recipients that are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Experiencing Homelessness○ Veterans○ Foster Youth• Update NOA message fragments for Time Limit Age Changes Updates to forms for Time Limit Age Changes <p>CalSAWS County Business Impact: Inform county staff about the policy change in ACL 23-80 system changes in SCR CA-266312.</p>

Policy Update

Adoption Assistance/Foster Care/Kin-GAP Rate Increase

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
<p>7/1/2024</p> <p>ACL 24-XX draft ACLs received on 6/17/24</p>	<p><u>FC & KG SCR</u>s SCR CA-257184 Build Release 24.07 (priority 7/25/24)</p> <p>SCR CA-257182 Build Release 24.07 (priority 8/3/24)</p> <p><u>AAP SCR</u>s SCR CA-257185 Build Release 24.07 (priority 7/25/24)</p> <p>SCR CA-257181 Build Release 24.07 (priority 8/3/24)</p>	<p>The California Necessities Index (CNI) increase of 3.72 percent, which is applicable to all Adoption Assistance Program (AAP), Foster Care (FC) and Kin-GAP (KG) placements, effective July 1, 2024.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the AAP, FC and KG rate values in the system• Run batch EDBC on the impacted cases to establish new benefit amounts <p>County Business Process Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform staff of the rates increases• Review the cases on the batch EDBC lists and take appropriate action. <p>Batch EDBC memorandum call with the counties will be scheduled for some time in early August. The batch EDBC memorandum provides details on the batch EDBC process, timeline, and county action for cases not processed by batch EDBC.</p>

Policy Update

Medi-Cal - Home/Community-Based Services and Spousal Impoverishment Provisions

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
<p>1/1/2024</p> <p>ACWDL 17-25</p> <p>MEDIL 122-08</p>	<p>SCR CA-207655 Implemented Release 23.11</p> <p>SCR CA-241932 Design Release RWR (July 2024)</p>	<p>The Affordable Care Act (ACA) broadened the definition of an institutionalized spouse. The new definition allows for a broader and more immediate application of the spousal impoverishment provisions for those receiving Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). The spousal impoverishment provisions allow the community spouse to retain more income and resources upon submission of a Medi-Cal application for an institutionalized spouse or a spouse who requests HCBS.</p> <p>CalSAWS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The System will track Medi-Cal (MC) Waivers on the Customer Options data collection page and no longer in a Requested Medi-Cal Type.• Medi-Cal budgets will be created in the system to apply Spousal Impoverishment Provisions when a MC program person is requesting or eligible to 'Home and Community-Based Services Waivers'.• The MC EDBC Rules will first evaluate for Full MC Hierarchy (Mega Mandatory and MAGI Medi-Cal), then evaluate Spousal Impoverishment with the new MC test Programs Aged and Disabled-SI, Working Disabled-SI and MC Income-SI.• Apply a Data Change Request (DCR) to individuals associated to a removed Waiver from 'Requested Medi-Cal Type Detail' page and moved to an associated Medi-Cal Waiver in the 'Customer Options Detail' page. A list of cases were not processed in the DCR will be provided for the counties to action. <p>For additional details on this change, refer to the SCR design document.</p> <p>CalSAWS County Business Impact: Inform staff about the changes to the policy and system. Action the cases that could not be processed in the DCR.</p>