

# CalSAWS Policy Update

November 2024



CalSAWS

# Policy Update

## CalFresh – New Statewide Minimum Wage Effective January 1, 2025

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
1/1/2025 <a href="#">ACIN I-41-24</a>	<b>CA-270651</b> Approved Release 24.11 (Priority 12/5/24)	<p>Effective January 1, 2025, the statewide minimum wage increases to \$16.50 per hour.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b> Update the State Minimum Wage value to 16.50 effective 1/1/25. <b>Note:</b> The minimum wage is used in the WINS calculation</p> <p><b>County Business Process Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inform staff of on the increase to the State minimum wage</li></ul>

# Policy Update

## CalFresh - 2025 Supplemental Social Security Cost of Living Increase

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
January 1, 2025  ACIN I-XX-XX	<p><b>SCR CA-280604</b> Approved Release 24.11 (Priority - 1/7/25)</p> <p><b>SCR CA-280612</b> Build Release 24.11 (Priority - 1/9/25)</p> <p><b>SCR CA-257730</b> Pending Approval Release 24.11 (Priority - 1/11/25)</p>	<p>CalFresh (CF) recipients that receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and California State Supplementary Payment (SSP) recipients will receive an SSI Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) effective January 1, 2025.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.Create new SSI Other Program Assistance records with the new SSI amount for the applicable CalFresh recipients.</li><li>2.Run batch EDBC on the CF program to update the SSI income amounts</li><li>3.Generate lists of cases that were not processed successfully through the batch EDBC process.</li></ol> <p><b>CalSAWS County Business Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inform staff about the SSI COLA</li><li>• Review the CalSAWS COLA memorandum</li><li>• County staff process the cases on the lists referenced in the COLA memorandum</li></ul>

# Policy Update

## CalFresh - Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD)

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
9/1/2023  <a href="#">ACL 23-80</a>	<b>SCR CA-266312</b> Implemented Release 24.03  <b>SCR CA-215950</b> Implemented Release 24.09  <b>SCR CA-228131</b> New Release 25.07	<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>The ABAWD waiver is extended to October 31, 2025.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add the 11/23 State version of the CF 886 to the Template Repository</li><li>• Update EDBC to generate the 11/23 version of the CF 866</li><li>• Remove the CF 377.11C from the Template Repository</li></ul> <p><b>CalSAWS County Business Impact:</b> Inform staff about the changes in this SCR.</p>

# Policy Update

## CalWORKs – ACL 23-94 Family Reunification

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
January 1, 2025 <a href="#">ACL 23-94</a>	<b>SCR CA-233160</b> Test Release 24.11	<p>Assembly Bill (AB) 135 (Chapter 85, All County Letter No. 23-94 Page Two Statutes of 2021), authorizes the provision of cash aid and child care services to families participating in CalWORKs (CW) Family Reunification (FR) as part of their reunification plan for up to six months. AB 135 also increased the temporary absence period for FR from up to 180 calendar days to up to six full months.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add two Family Reunification Data Collection pages</li><li>• Update EDBC to allow CW to remain active and receive a CW grant after the child has been removed from the home and is receiving Foster Care.</li><li>• Update EDBC to automatically evaluate the parents for non-cash based Medi-Cal when the case become FR</li><li>• Add new FR Notices of Actions to the system</li></ul> <p><b>CalSAWS County Business Impact:</b> Inform staff about the automation changes for family reunification</p>

# Policy Update

## CAPI – 2025 Increase to CAPI Payment Standards

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS Status	Implementation Details
1/1/2025 ACIN I-XX-XX	<b>CA-257176</b> New Release 24.11 (Priority 12/x/24)  <b>CA-282588</b> New Release 24.11 (Priority 12/X/24)	<p>The Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) payment amounts increase effective January 1, 2025. This change is the result of a xx percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), as recently declared by the federal Social Security Administration (SSA), and a State Supplementary Payment (SSP) grant increase, as approved by the California State Legislature.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add the 2025 CAPI payment standards to the system</li><li>• Run Batch EDBC for CAPI programs to apply the new payment amounts</li><li>• Prior to batch EDBC run, provide a list of impacted CalFresh/CAPI cases</li></ul> <p><b>County Business Process Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inform staff of on the increase to the CAPI payment standard</li></ul> <p>EDBC memorandum will be provided via CalSAWS Information Transmittal (CIT) counties in November 2024. 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

## Social Security Admin (SSA) Cost of Living

Policy Effective Date & State Policy Reference	CalSAWS	Implementation Details
January 1, 2025  ACWDL XX-XX	<b>CA-257070</b> Design Release 24.11 (Priority – 12/7/24)  <b>CA-257071</b> Design Release 24.11 (Priority – 12/14/24)	<p>Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients will receive a cost of living (COLA) increase, effective January 1, 2025.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create new SSA income records effective 1/1/2025 for active individuals receiving SSA income.</li><li>• Add the 2025 Medi-Cal Pickle values to the systems</li><li>• Add the 2025 SSI/SSP payment standards to the systems</li><li>• Add the 2025 Medicare Part B premium amount to the systems</li><li>• Run batch EDBC to apply the above values to the impacted programs.</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b> The tentative run date for the batch EDBC process is 12/14/24 .</p> <p>Batch EDBC memorandum will be provided via CalSAWS Information Transmittal in November 2024. The batch EDBC memorandum provides details on the batch EDBC process, timeline, and county action for cases not processed by batch EDBC.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS County Business Impact:</b> Manually process the cases not processed in the 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><a href="#">ACWDL 17-25</a></p> <p><a href="#">MEDIL 22-08</a></p>	<p><b>SCR CA-207655</b> Implemented Release 23.11</p> <p><b>SCR CA-241932</b> Build Release RWR</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><b>CalSAWS Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The System will track Medi-Cal (MC) Waivers on the Customer Options data collection page and no longer in a Requested Medi-Cal Type.</li> <li>• 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'.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>For additional details on this change, refer to the SCR design document.</p> <p><b>CalSAWS County Business Impact:</b> Inform staff about the changes to the policy and system. Action the cases that could not be processed in the DCR.</p>