



California Statewide Automated Welfare System

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Design

**CA-221893**

Update PACF Budget at Initial Approval

DOCUMENT APPROVAL HISTORY

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DATE	VERSION	REVISION DESCRIPTION	AUTHOR
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# CA-221893: Update PACF Budget at Initial Approval

## 1 OVERVIEW

When determining a household's eligibility and level of benefits, the county shall take into consideration the income received by the household during the certification period. The cash aid grant which has been received in a later month will not be counted as unearned income in a prior CalFresh (CF) budget calculation. In addition, any retroactive CW grant is considered a non-recurring lump sum payment in the month received and should be excluded per MPP 63-301.633(b), MMP 63-301.634, MMP 62-502.2(j) and 7 CFR 273.9(c)(8).

SCR CA-221893 will update the behavior of PACF EDBC logic to not include the prior month's cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) grant in the CF budget when the Cash Aid benefit is approved after the month of application. This change will be implemented in CalSAWS in the same release as SCR CA-224153 (26.03) which will update NOA/multi-month functionality to allow for change NOAs to be generated for previous month benefit changes when a multi month EDBC includes the application month.

### 1.1 Current Design

Per current CalSAWS functionality, when processing CW/CF EDBC for a prior application month, all cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) benefit grant received after the application benefit month is being counted as unearned income for the CF benefit determination. For example, an applicant applies for CW/CF in August, and in September the CW/CF EDBC is approved. When the case is run for CW/CF EDBC for the benefit months of August and September, the August CW benefit granted in September is being counted towards the CF budget as unearned income for the application benefit month of August.

### 1.2 Requests

Per Federal SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.10(c) and clarified in CRPC 2167:" If the amount of income that will be received, or when it will be received, is uncertain, that portion of the household's income that is uncertain shall not be counted by the State agency". All cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) which grant has been received in a later month shall not be counted as unearned income in a prior CF budget calculation.

### 1.3 Overview of Recommendations

1. Update CF EDBC logic to NOT include benefit grant for cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) as unearned income when CF EDBC is processed for a prior month application.
2. Regression test for CF benefit change NOA in multi-month EDBC CF benefit change scenario.

## 1.4 Assumptions

1. This SCR change will only apply to new CF EDBCs going forward and will not apply to previously saved EDBCs. Running EDBC for a month prior to the implementation of this SCR will apply the logic from this SCR.
2. Pending intake applications will be impacted by this change.
3. Cash aid benefits received in the same month as the CF benefits will continue to count as unearned income in the CF budget calculation.
4. This SCR is a clone of SCR CA-212911 which was rolled back due to dependency on SCR CA-224153 (26.03 release) which will update NOA Suppression logic for Multi-Month EDBC.
5. No changes to notice generation logic will be updated.
6. No verbiage or variable population to notices will be updated.
7. No updates will be made to the CalFresh NOA Budgets. Budgets should reflect values displayed by EDBC.
8. Regression Testing for notices is dependent on CA-224153.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

CF budget will be updated to exempt cash-based programs General Assistance, CalWORKs, CAPI, RCA, and Immediate Need (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) when the cash aid event date is after the CF benefit month or prior to the current system date and cash aid is not approved.

## 2.1 Page Name – No Impact

## 2.2 Update CF EDBC Logic to Not Include cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) Benefit Grant for the Previous Month Calculation application

### 2.2.1 Overview

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CalSAWS will not include cash-based programs (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) benefit grant as unearned income when CF EDBC is processed for a previous month's application.

### 2.2.2 Description of Changes

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1. Update CF EDBC logic to not count cash aid program (GA, CW, CP, RC, IN) benefits in the CF Budget in either of the following situations:
  - a. The latest cash aid program approval event date is after the end of the CF benefit month.
  - b. The CF benefit month is prior to the current system date, and the cash aid is not yet approved (The disposition of the application is not approved).

Note: EDBC will not create an over-issuance for the prior months when cash aid programs are accepted and saved

### 2.2.3 Example Scenarios

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**Disclaimer:** The below scenarios are not requirements. They are meant to help guide understanding and testing and may mention items that are not being changed by the specific language in the requirements.

**Scenario 1:** Cash aid program is approved after the CF benefit month.

- a. Application date for CW and CF is October 1, 2025. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the application process is completed for CF but not CW.
- b. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the CF program is approved and EDBC is 'Accepted and Saved' for October 2025 benefit month through come-up month. CW program status is 'Pending'.
- c. On November 15<sup>th</sup> CW is approved for October 2025 benefit month through come-up month. EDBC is 'Accepted and Saved' for October 2025 benefit month through come-up month for both CW and CF programs.
- d. By Approving October's benefits for CW & CF on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the October CW grant will not be counted as unearned income in the October CF budget.

Gross Income Eligibility		Regular
Unearned Income	\$	0.00
Earned Income	+	0.00
Total Gross Nonexempt Income	=	0.00
Household Size		3
Maximum Gross Income	\$	0.00
Result		Waived
Net Income Eligibility		Regular
Unearned Income	\$	0.00
Earned Income	+	0.00

Figure 7: CF EDBC Summary – CW grant received on November 15<sup>th</sup> (for the month of October) is not being counted as unearned Income in CF budget for the month of October.

**Scenario 2:** CF benefit month is prior to the system date and cash aid program is not yet approved.

- i. Application date for CW and CF is October 15, 2025. On November 5<sup>th</sup> the application process is completed for both CW and CF.
- ii. On November 5<sup>th</sup> (current system date) CW and CF programs are approved and EDBC is 'Accepted and Saved' for October 2025 benefit month through come-up month.
- iii. By 'Accepting and Saving' October's benefits (prior month) for CW & CF on November 5<sup>th</sup>, the October CW grant will not be counted as unearned income in the October CF budget. The CW grant will be counted for November Month onward.

Gross Income Eligibility		Regular
Unearned Income	\$	0.00
Earned Income	+	0.00
Total Gross Nonexempt Income	=	0.00
Household Size		3
Maximum Gross Income	\$	0.00
Result		Waived
Net Income Eligibility		Regular
Unearned Income	\$	0.00
Earned Income	+	0.00

Figure 8: CF EDBC Summary – CW grant received on November 5<sup>th</sup> (for the month of October) is not being counted as unearned Income in CF budget for the month of October.

#### **2.2.4 Programs Impacted**

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CalFresh

#### **2.2.5 Performance Impacts**

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No Performance Impact.



## 2.3 Batch Name – No Impact

## 2.4 Interface Name – No Impact

## **2.5 eHIT – No Impact**

## **2.6 [Form/NOA Name] - No Impact**

## 2.7 Report Name – No Impact

## **2.8 Data Warehouse Name – No Impact**

## **2.9 Data Change – No Impact**

## **2.10 Automated Regression Test – No Impact**

### 3 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

N/A

## 4 OUTREACH

### 4.1 Lists – No Impact

## 5 APPENDIX

N/A