

CalSAWS



CalSAWS Risk Management Group RMG Report (Off Cycle)

December 3, 2025

LIST OF OPEN RISKS

Risk 102 - Lack of annual project funding may cause schedule delay or reduction in scope for CalSAWS & other projects

Risk 203 - The CalSAWS web portal has limited features and accessibility which may impact the project's ability to disseminate information clearly and the counties' ability to locate information easily and timely.

Risk 317 - Updated May Revise Budget Medi-Cal Revisions effective January 1, 2026, may be at risk for Delivery

Risk 324 - Delay in communication may impact CalSAWS participation in the process simulation activity prior to the pilot go-live

Risk 325 - Lack of approved federal funding may impact FCED pilot implementation activities

LIST OF OPEN ISSUES

Issue 318 - CARES KIN-GAP and Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) conversion approach requires significant manual data conversion and/or data entry effort by the counties

Issue 321 - Uncertainty on approach for transmitting Vendor information to CalSAWS may impact large county automation

Issue 323 - Integrated Performance Testing with CARES has unclear execution timeline and approach

CalSAWS RMG Risks and Issues Report – December 3, 2025 (Off Cycle)

GENERAL ANALYSIS

The overall average Project risk exposure level, due to five open risks and three open issues, is now at 2.04.

The following charts summarize various aspects of these risks and issues. Figure 1 Risk/Issue Exposure Levels plots the risk numbers and their corresponding risk exposures and shows the progression from lowest probability/ risk exposure to highest. Most of the risks have a probability of occurring equal to or less than 50%. The open issues are actualized risks and therefore are at 100% probability. Figure 2 shows the trend of risk/issues counts and overall average project risk exposure over the past year. There are two risks at Medium risk level, and one at High. Figure 5 Count of Open Risks with Trigger Dates Within Risk Horizon Categories shows that there are four risks having trigger dates occurring within the next 90 days (Near Horizon).

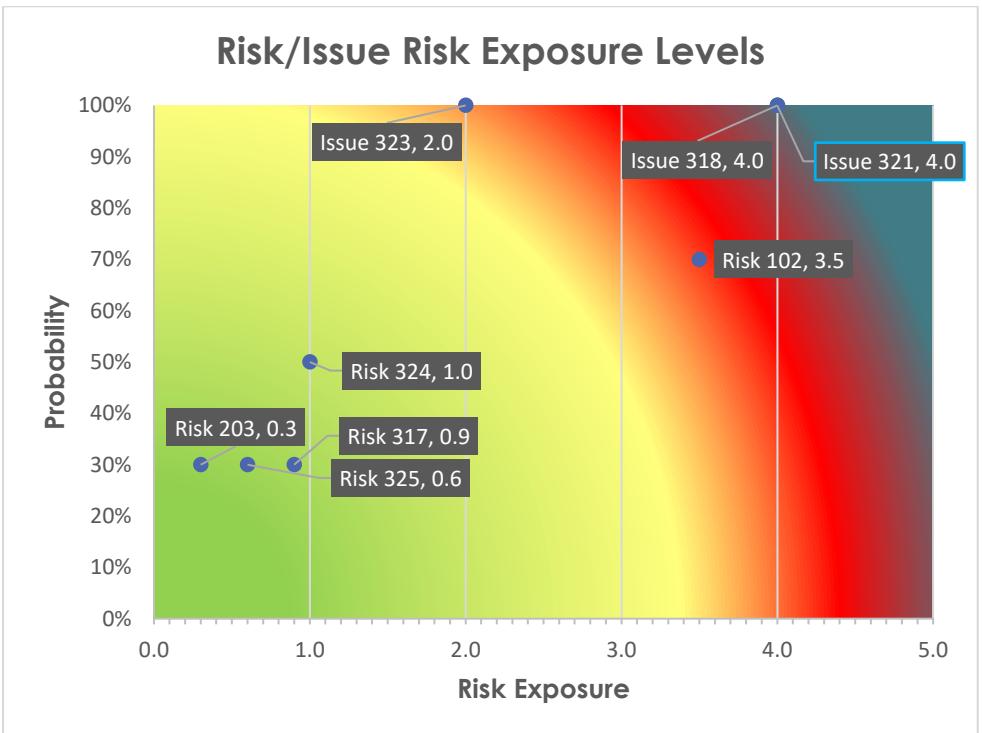


Figure 1 Risk and Corresponding Risk Exposure

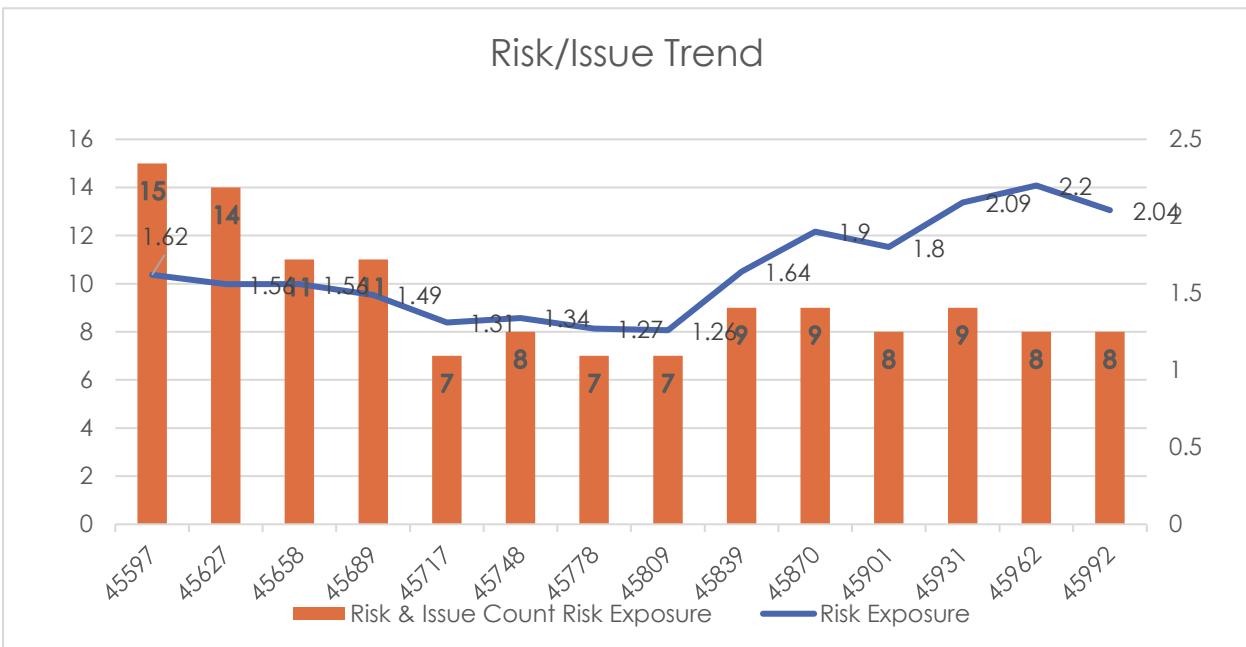


Figure 2 Overall Risk Level and Numerical Analysis

Probability	Impact				
	1 Minimal	2	3	4	5 Unacceptable
90% Near Certainty	(0.9)	(1.8)	(2.7)	(3.6)	(4.5)
70% Highly Likely	(0.7)	(1.4)	(2.1)	(2.8)	(3.5)
50% Possible	(0.5)	(1.0)	(1.5)	(2.0)	(2.5)
30% Unlikely	(0.3)	(0.6)	(0.9)	(1.2)	(1.5)
10% Highly Unlikely	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.5)

Legend: Low Medium High

Figure 3 Probability / Impact

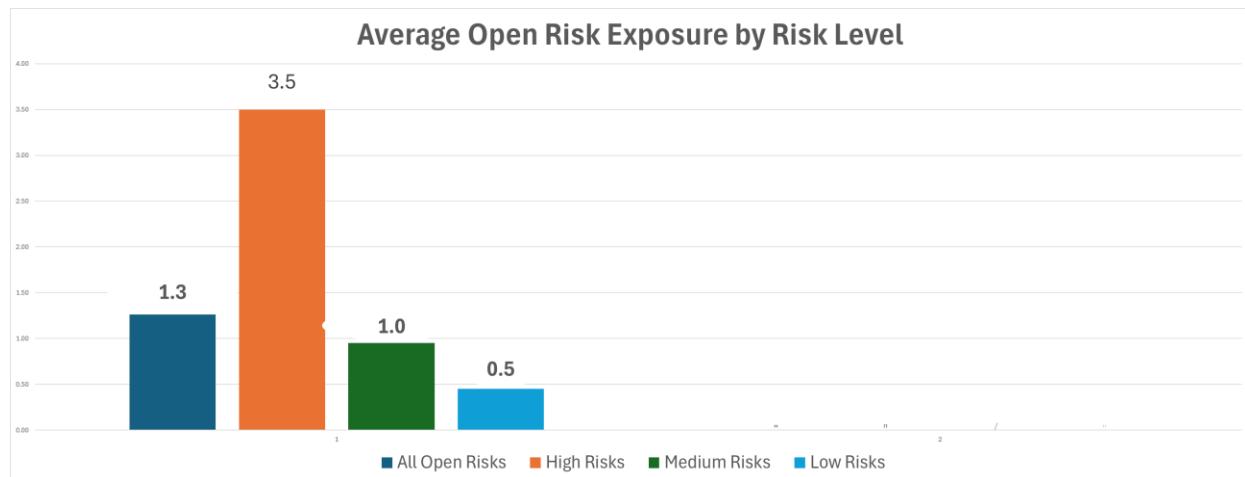


Figure 4 Avg of Open Risk Exposures within Risk Level Category

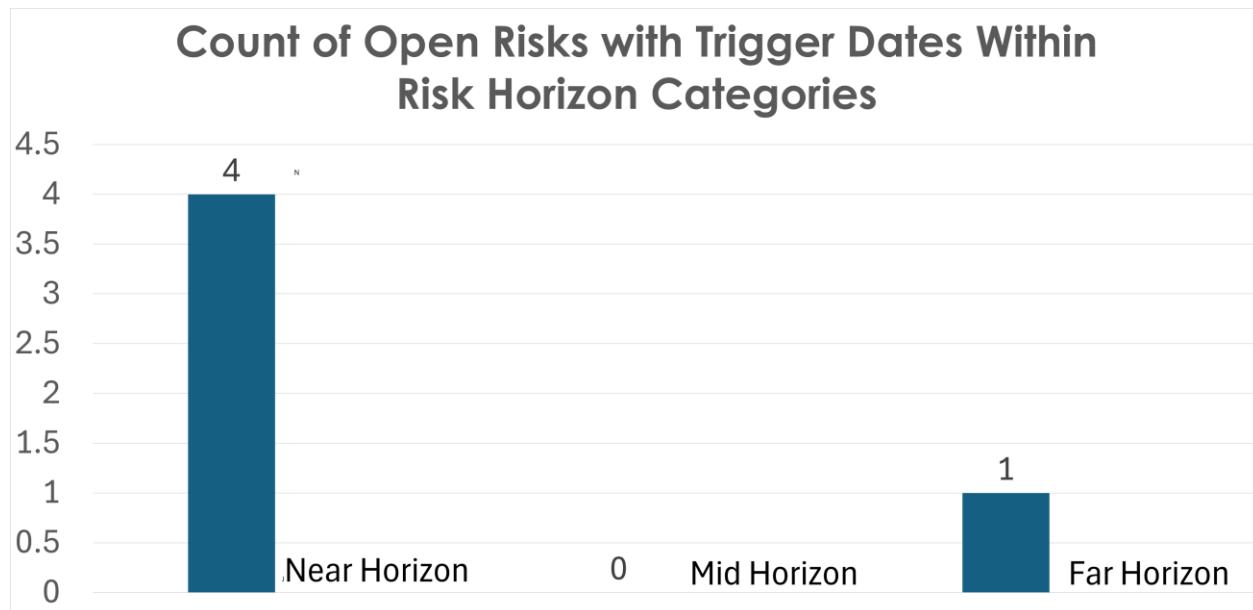


Figure 5 Count of Open Risks with Trigger Dates Within Risk Horizon Categories

CALSAWS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

RISK 102 - LACK OF ANNUAL PROJECT FUNDING MAY CAUSE SCHEDULE DELAY OR REDUCTION IN SCOPE FOR CALSAWS & OTHER PROJECTS

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS		
The project is subject to state funding approval each year. State general fund payments may be deferred, or budget cuts may cause schedule delays, scope reductions, or staff reductions	Holly Murphy		
LEVEL	TRENDING	EARLY IMPACT DATE	TRIGGER DATE
HIGH	Remains same 	10/10/2025	1/10/2026

LATEST STATUS NOTES

- Nov 13, 2025: OAPDU was approved, CPMO will confirm funding requests are complete with release of the Governor's Proposed Budget in January.
- Sept 8, 2025: No updates, status remains unchanged.
- Aug 8, 2025: HR1 was passed with impact to funding participation rates, increasing the State's share of cost. Direction from the State on updates to the CAP is pending but increases the probability of this risk due to impacts on State general fund. CPMO continues to monitor and address questions/comments associated with OAPDU review and approval.

CURRENT MITIGATION PLAN

Consortium PMO will monitor actual and projected costs against plan to assess utilization and monitor new funding needs for future funding requests as part of standard processes and apply updates per State schedule:

- Verify monthly updates to the State's Master Automation Effort Tracker to identify gaps– Ongoing Monthly
- Prepare and submit Automated Budget Questionnaire (ABQ) – August/February
- Coordinate with State partners to address comments and questions – Fall and Spring budget cycles
- Verify proposed budget – January/May
- Address funding gaps – February/June

CALSAWS TRANSITION RISK

RISK 203 - THE CALSAWS WEB PORTAL HAS LIMITED FEATURES AND ACCESSIBILITY WHICH MAY IMPACT THE PROJECT'S ABILITY TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION CLEARLY AND THE COUNTIES' ABILITY TO LOCATE INFORMATION EASILY AND TIMELY.

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
March 6, 2025 The CalSAWS web portal has limited features and accessibility which may impact the project's ability to disseminate information clearly and the counties' ability to locate information easily and timely.	Holly Murphy, Peggy Macias

LEVEL	TRENDING	EARLY IMPACT DATE	TRIGGER DATE
Low	Remains same 	12/31/2025	2/28/2026

LATEST STATUS NOTES

- Nov 13, 2025: Updated mitigation plan schedule, no change to implementation date for phase 1. Home Page and Project Workspace pages draft near complete.
- Sept 8, 2025: Identified SharePoint as the best tool to meet our needs. Currently identifying workgroup participants to support detailed design of pages and functionality.
- Aug 8, 2025: Alternatives analysis has continued to compare products. CPMO reviewed prototype developed by Gainwell to provide feedback for expanded demonstration with the Consortium. Timeline has been updated to ensure adequate time to coordinate across the all teams including including Tech Ops and Security/Privacy for governance aspects of the future solution, as well as change management/training for project and county staff.

CURRENT MITIGATION PLAN

March 6, 2025/Aug 8, 2025, Mitigation Plan: Update the web portal to improve access to information, improve user experience, and streamline organization of information:

- Develop requirements for a new web portal (CPMO/Customer Engagement, target May 1, 2025 - Completed)
- Complete alternatives analysis of software options and assess costs (Gainwell Tools Team/CPMO/Customer Engagement, target August 31, 2025 - Completed)
- Design and develop new web portal (Gainwell Tools Team/CPMO/Customer Engagement, target December 31, 2025)
- Develop standards and maintenance processes to support integrity of the web portal – (CPMO/Customer Engagement, target December 31 2025)
- Facilitate organizational change management and training – (CPMO/Customer Engagement, target January 2026)
- Implement new web portal, (Gainwell Tools Team/CPMO/Customer Engagement target January 2026) (schedule is subject to final selection of tool)

CALSAWS TRANSITION RISK

RISK 317 - UPDATED MAY REVISE BUDGET MEDI-CAL REVISIONS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 MAY BE AT RISK FOR DELIVERY

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
<p>As part of the State Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Revised Budget, two policy updates are expected to be implemented by January 1, 2026. These policy updates are the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full-Scope Medi-Cal Enrollment Freeze for Non-Satisfactory Immigration Status and ■ Reinstatement of the Non-MAGI Medi-Cal Asset Limit Test. <p>The Enrollment Freeze update will require coordination between the CalSAWS and CalHEERS Project. The implementation of these changes should not conflict with the SSA COLA Batch Run planned for December 2025. Without finalized staffing, policy, timeline, and environment plan, the delivery and implementation of these policy updates might be at risk.</p>	Rajesh Tahaliyani, Jerry Nielson, Lulu Fou, Lisa Salas, Michele Peterson, Sharon Teramura, Emmeil Davis

LEVEL	TRENDING	EARLY IMPACT DATE	TRIGGER DATE
MEDIUM	Downward 	11/14/2025	12/1/2025

LATEST STATUS NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 11/14/2025: BenefitsCal development completed. Risk exposure reduced from 1.5 to 0.9. CalSAWS system test changed from 11/19/2025 to 12/5/2025. ■ 10/21/2025: CalSAWS development completed added BenefitsCal development and system test to Mitigation Plan. Updated Early Impact and Risk Trigger Dates ■ 9/22/2025: Design completed and development is in progress.

CURRENT MITIGATION PLAN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Work with DHCS to finalize policy by June 30, 2025 (Completed) ■ Acquire development/testing environment by June 30, 2025 (Completed) ■ Coordinate with CalHEERS to finalize design/testing/deployment timeline by June 30, 2025 (Completed) ■ Onboard and ramp-up Deloitte SME staff (Completed) ■ Finalize CalSAWS system change design by August 31, 2025 (Completed) ■ Complete CalSAWS system change development by October 17, 2025 (Completed) ■ Complete BenefitsCal system change development by November 7, 2025 (Completed) ■ Complete CalSAWS system test by December 5, 2025 (In Progress) Complete BenefitsCal system test by December 1, 2025

RISK 324 - DELAY IN COMMUNICATION MAY IMPACT CALSAWS PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS SIMULATION ACTIVITY PRIOR TO THE PILOT GO-LIVE.

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
<p>CARES requested CalSAWS participation and support in a Process Simulation activity prior to the pilot go-live, representing an additional scope of work. CARES implementation activities—including the Pilot, Process Simulation, Training, and Sandbox—are currently paused due to the October 1, 2025, Federal shutdown, impacting the CARES request for additional funding. CARES has confirmed that all discussions regarding the Process Simulation will remain on hold until further notice. This delay in coordinating Process Simulation activities have several downstream impacts, including potential effects on overall project schedule, resource allocation, joint testing, environment allocations and configuration, and funding needs to accommodate the expanded CalSAWS scope. Furthermore, funding for the CalSAWS STG6 environment is currently set to expire in May 2026 and allocated for County EUST3 testing between February and March 2025. Without clear Process Simulation timelines, there is a risk that an environment is not available and/or additional funding may be required to procure or extend environment availability in support of Process Simulation. Additionally, the current assumption is that Process Simulation would be conducted using unmasked production data, which is not compliant with the terms of the existing I-MOU between CalSAWS and CARES, and will require resolution before Process Simulation activities can proceed.</p>	Michele Petersen, Rachel Hernandez, Jerald Nielson, Ramya Raghunathan

LEVEL	TRENDING	EARLY IMPACT DATE	TRIGGER DATE
MEDIUM	Upward 	1/1/2026	2/1/2026

LATEST STATUS NOTES

- No updates in addition to initial opening of risk during RMG 11/19/2025.

CURRENT MITIGATION PLAN

The CalSAWS project team can:

- Starting January 2026, identify Process Simulation testing activities that can be done within CalSAWS using current funding, to prepare for future work.
- Starting February January review and document options to extend or replace the CalSAWS STG6 environment before funding ends in May 2026, so solutions are ready when planning resumes.
- Once Process Simulation process discussion resume, coordinate with CARES to determine how masked production data can be used for Process Simulation in CalSAWS.

RISK 325 - LACK OF APPROVED FEDERAL FUNDING MAY IMPACT FCED PILOT IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES.

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
Due to the federal shutdown beginning on October 1, 2025, CWS-CARES has not submitted their APDU to ACF for approval. Without approved federal funding and the uncertainty surrounding the federal shutdown, work on specific implementation activities including CWS-CARES Pilot, Process Simulation, Training, and Sandbox will be paused while CDSS continues to assess options. CARES FCED pilot is currently scheduled between 8/28/26 – 10/9/26. The hold on Federal funding may impact on planned CalSAWS support and readiness activities including system changes, pilot planning, and training activities that are essential for a successful Pilot.	Michele Petersen, Rachel Hernandez, Jerald Nielson, Ramya Raghunathan

LEVEL	TRENDING	EARLY IMPACT DATE	TRIGGER DATE
Low	Remains same 	2/1/2026	4/1/2026

LATEST STATUS NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11/17/2025: CARES is evaluating a Production Simulation activity, as opposed to a Process Simulation, using an unmasked production copy. This activity is tentatively scheduled to run from May 2026 to August 2026 (pilot), or from May 2026 to October 2026 (go-live). CARES has requested CalSAWS participation. As previously outlined, the same considerations for CalSAWS regarding STG6 environment availability post-May 2026 remain applicable including the need for a new funding extension. SCERFRA 25-536 received. Additionally, the restriction remains that CalSAWS cannot connect to any environment containing unmasked production data.

CURRENT MITIGATION PLAN
<p>The CalSAWS project team can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting February 2026, revisit timeline and determine if planning for Pilot activities can resume and be done within CalSAWS using current funding, to prepare for future work. Identify and perform feasible system changes, organizational change management (OCM), and training development activities between Dec 2025 – July 2026, that may be completed in isolation (within the CalSAWS system) using currently approved funding, in preparation for the Pilot. Additional contingencies and mitigations will be evaluated, as needed, between April 2026 – July 2026, for system and OCM changes that require CARES coordination and cannot be completed due to the funding hold.

M&O

ISSUE 318- CARES KIN-GAP AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) CONVERSION APPROACH REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT MANUAL DATA CONVERSION AND/OR DATA ENTRY EFFORT BY THE COUNTIES

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
<p>The conversion approach that the CARES project has put forward assumes that enough case data for Kin-GAP and Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) programs exist in CWS/CMS or can be derived from existing data to create a shell case. Discussions to synchronize CalSAWS AAP and Kin-GAP case data that may be missing from CWS/CMS have yet to be resolved with CARES in a positive outcome, increasing the level of manual work staff will undertake to make the case whole and synchronize the data in both CARES and CalSAWS systems. The CARES-FCED Foster Care program conversion approach was previously approved. The initial Foster Care data extract from the CARES project was received on July 1, 2025. The match rate for CalSAWS cases and individuals was extremely low. CalSAWS' analysis and reconciliation of the extract indicate that the approved conversion approach for Foster Care should be revisited, as it may be more complex than initially anticipated—both for the project and potentially for county staff. Given that Foster Care is the primary eligibility program tracked through FCED, with more detailed data available in CWS/CMS, the low match rate highlights a misalignment in expectations regarding CARES data extraction, deduplication, and formatting.</p>	Michele Peterson, Rachel Hernandez, Jerald Nielson, Ramya Raghunathan

PRIORITY	DATE IDENTIFIED	RESOLUTION DUE DATE	ESCALATION DATE
HIGH	7/25/2025	1/31/2026	7/25/2025

LATEST STATUS NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">11/17/2025: KinGAP: CARES provided an initial list of files required for extract comparison at their end. CalSAWS delivered the KG extract on 11/4 and is currently awaiting on the CARES analysis and next steps on any additional fields required for the shell case creation from CARES. AAP: On 11/7, CalSAWS provided the AAP volume metrics as well as the requested metrics regarding adoptive parent information. CARES is currently evaluating next steps and provide an update.10/17/2025 - During the prior weeks, CARES and CalSAWS have met to deep dive on CalSAWS Foster Care cases that have yet to be linked using the CARES data extract. As a

LATEST STATUS NOTES

group, we identified some issues with the data as well as matching algorithms on both sides. The CARES project is working on a new extract (planned for 10/17) that will incorporate the new filtering criteria we discussed. Once the extract file is received, CalSAWS will update the identified issue with matching SSNs with leading zeroes. CARES has also indicated acceptance in exploring ingesting a data extract of Kin-GAP case details from CalSAWS. The CARES team is working on a data extract format so that CalSAWS can assess what case details we are lacking (if any). AAP Case linking has yet to make any notable progress.

- 10/3/2025 - In recent discussions with the CARES project, there has been agreement to explore the option of data extract from CalSAWS for ingestion into CARES for KinGAP cases. CalSAWS initiated conversation around cleanup activities that counties can engage in now as the expectation is counties will need to maintain these cases in CARES vs auxiliary systems or approaches. Note: Both projects are still exploring match criteria for Foster Care cases using extracts from the CARES system. CalSAWS provided a sample of 200 cases to the CARES project to help with research in identifying the reason for a lower case count being sent to CalSAWS in the CARES extract.

CURRENT ISSUE RESOLUTION PLAN

Weekly conversion discussions with CARES to identify a path forward for Conversion which will require the least amount of manual entry by county staff have identified three possible outcomes. Kin-GAP and AAP Conversion Options:

- The CARES project has suggested that utilization of the APIs to do most of the conversion is the best option. The CalSAWS project disagrees with this approach because there are too many concerns with using the APIs to perform high volume data synchronization when they were designed to send daily update volume only
- The CalSAWS project has suggested that CARES do a full ingestion of the eligibility data pulled from CalSAWS to give the most data possible to the CARES system to avoid a need for any downstream data conversions or manual entry. CARES has objected to this approach due to resource constraints/time/etc. Additionally, they have indicated that there is concern for data desynchronization due to some counties' timelines for adopting CARES as the system for Social Services Workers to track Kin-GAP and AAP cases.
- The CalSAWS project has requested the absolute minimum number of data points that the CARES project would need to establish a link to CalSAWS and still have enough data to continue day-to-day business so that the CARES project can ingest that information from a CalSAWS extract. This approach is still in discussion. With this solution CARES has also indicated that there is concern for data desynchronization due to some countries' timelines for adopting CARES as the system for Social Services Workers to track Kin-GAP and AAP cases.

Timeline: September 8, 2025 -

- Define acceptable and agreed upon conversion match rate threshold to be decided by the CARES/CalSAWS executive group
- Sept - Oct 2025 Coordinate conversion match logic, coordinated with the CARES project utilizing data extracts from the CWS/CMS system
- Nov 2025 - finalize approach
- Jan - Feb 2026 - develop supporting approach and reports for workers to execute clean-up Pre and Post go-live

M&O

ISSUE 321- CARES IS UNABLE TO SUPPORT TRANSMITTING VENDOR INFORMATION TO CALSAWS IN A SEPARATE API UNTIL POST-PRODUCTION GO-LIVE

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
<p>During development of the FCED/CARES APIs, the CalSAWS project identified a concern with the proposed approach for sharing vendor information from the CARES system. The CalSAWS approach is that vendors, which are stored in the Resource Data Bank (RDB), are designed to be entered once and then associated to cases that are using that vendor. CARES Vendor = CalSAWS Foster Care Resource, which becomes the Placement and payee on the Foster Care program. The Vendor/Resource information will be sent with placement data which will duplicate updates across all placements which that vendor/resource supports. Additionally, the existing large county automation design is dependent upon receipt of the vendor/resource information separate from the placement updates.</p>	Michele Peterson, Rachel Hernandez, Jerald Nielson, Ayana Alvarez, Ramya Raghunathan

PRIORITY	DATE IDENTIFIED	RESOLUTION DUE DATE	ESCALATION DATE
HIGH	8/12/2025	1/31/2026	8/13/2025

LATEST STATUS NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">11/17/2025: CARES is currently evaluating the option of sending a vendor extract file to CalSAWS or directly to LA. On 10/20/2025, CalSAWS provided the vendor file format currently used by LA. CARES will provide an update following their meeting with LA on 11/17/2025.10/17/2025 - In the last few weeks, CARES, CalSAWS, and LA County have been assessing 3 options for interim approaches to transmitting resource information to support large county automation. The only option that both projects identified as viable was a periodic flat file transfer that would contain new and updated(?) resource information. The teams are determining if the file can be transmitted directly to CalSAWS or if LA County will be receiving the file prior to CalSAWS processing. We recommend keeping this issue open regardless of the implementation of an interim approach as the lack of a Vendor API causes workload impacts to counties. Closing or de-escalating this issue can be assessed when CARES commits to a Vendor API implementation date.10/3/2025 - A follow up meeting with the CARES project was held to discuss alternative approaches to receive resource information that could allow large county automation as well as base functionality to proceed forward with minimal business process changes. The outcome of the meeting was three options that each project needed to evaluate for feasibility. A subsequent meeting will take place to discuss further once each project has completed their analysis of the options.

CURRENT ISSUE RESOLUTION PLAN

Internal CalSAWS strategy/approach sessions (initial meeting scheduled for 8/13/2025) are being held to identify options to proceed with FCED design and development. The resolution plan will be updated with outputs from the strategy session.

Timeline:

- Aug 2025 - confirmed CARES decision that Vendor API would be developed as a post V1 deployment.
- Sept - Oct 2025 - CalSAWS to complete analysis and identify different designs and possibly different county business practices to support vendor management and automation

M&O

ISSUE 323- INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE TESTING WITH CARES HAS UNCLEAR EXECUTION TIMELINE AND APPROACH

DESCRIPTION	OWNERS
Integrated performance testing with CARES has a plan to utilize the existing PERF environment to execute performance and stress testing. The PERF environment is heavily used throughout each week for performance testing of new changes going into production. The scheduling of tests is very tightly controlled and requires at least 2 months of notice to effectively slot in new tests. The integrated test with CARES was targeted to begin on December 1, 2025. The specific environment, test plan, set up, and agreed upon data being used are still unconfirmed, which prevents proper planning of the test in CalSAWS. Additionally, the CARES performance environment has been loaded with unmasked production data from CWS/CMS, which does not align with the current I-MOU between CalSAWS and CARES.	Michele Petersen, Rachel Hernandez, Jerald Nielson, Ramya Raghunathan

PRIORITY	DATE IDENTIFIED	RESOLUTION DUE DATE	ESCALATION DATE
HIGH	10/22/2025	12/31/2025	10/22/2025

LATEST STATUS NOTES

- 11/17/2025 - On 11/6/25, CARES confirmed that CARES 200 will be used as the environment for CalSAWS integrated testing. This environment does not contain production data. CARES is able to fabricate the necessary transaction volume for API testing. Additionally, CARES will independently conduct production volume testing in the CARES 100 environment. CARES is currently finalizing the PERF execution timelines. Note: There is a potential for CARES API response times to differ from actual production performance due to the use of fabricated data sourced from a low-volume database. CalSAWS recommends utilizing production-sized volumes of masked data for integrated testing with CalSAWS. This is noted as a watch item for the time being.
- 10/22/2025 - New issue escalated from Risk 323

CURRENT ISSUE RESOLUTION PLAN

Work with the CARES project to determine the next course of action to get a database with a masked production copy or fabricated production volume that can be linked to the CalSAWS PERF environment. Once linked, both projects will need to participate in data setup activities to prepare for performance testing the API and pages related to the FCED interface. CalSAWS has requested at least 8 weeks of lead time for the targeted date, plan, and data use agreements to be in place to allow for enough preparation time.