

CalFresh | Change Impact Overview

CalFresh Processing & ABAWD Enhancements

CalSAWS - OCM

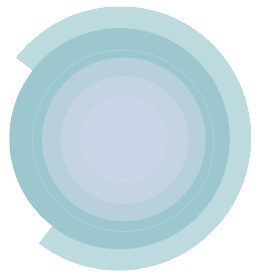
July 2026

CalSAWS



Purpose and Objectives

Below you will find the purpose, objectives, inputs, and outputs of the Change Impact Resource Package.



Purpose

The Change Impact Resource Package supports Organizational Change Management (OCM) efforts for CalFresh Payment Error Rate and ABAWD enhancements by identifying, analyzing, validating, and communicating the people, process, and technology impacts associated with upcoming System changes.

By evaluating the differences between the current and future state, the assessment provides stakeholders with a clear understanding of what is changing and helps inform mitigation strategies, communications, and engagement activities needed to prepare impacted staff.

Objectives

- Analyze current-state and future state differences to determine what is changing as a result upcoming CalFresh changes
- Assess and validate impacts across CalFresh Workgroups
- Provide stakeholders with a clear and digestible view of change impacts
- Inform OCM activities to prepare workers for change
- Support proactive communications, engagement, and change readiness planning

Inputs

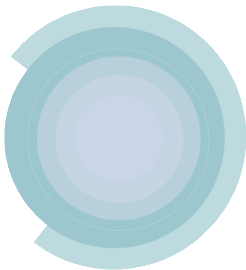
- System design documentation
- Design forums / working sessions
- Change Impact Log
- M&E and Consortium Functional SME input
- Impact scoring criteria

Outputs

- Validated change impact findings
- Prioritized impacts by rating
- Change Impact Resource Package / Report
- Key takeaways
- Tailored communications for Regional Managers and County PPOCs

Included in this Package:

The table below outlines which SCR#s are included in this change impact resource package.



26.07

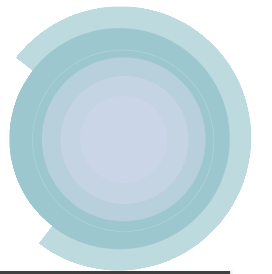
Impacted Workgroup	SCR#	SCR Name	Change Overview
CalFresh Processing	CA-296576	Automate Expense Contributions	CalSAWS will add an Auto-Populate Contributors function on the Expense Detail page for certain expense types, automatically creating an expense contributors record using eligible household members in the home, which should reduce manual entry for county workers while still requiring them to review and confirm the selected contributors for accuracy.
ABAWD Enhancements	CA-298215	ABAWD Enhancement Workgroup - Update Work Registration Exemption Determination for 'Cares for Dependent Child Under 6'	CalSAWS will tighten work registration exemption logic so the “Cares for Dependent Child Under 6” exemption is system-determined only when the child is identified as In the Home , improving determination accuracy for county workers while leaving manual entry available for exception situations.



CalFresh Overview

CalFresh SCRs by Workgroup

The following CalFresh SCRs have been identified for OCM Support as of July 2026.

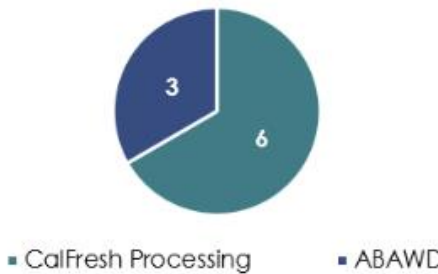


Workgroup	Release Date	SCR#	SCR Name
CalFresh Processing	26.05	CA-296569	Nudge & Automated System Error Reviews Framework (Phase 1)
	26.07	CA-296576	Automate Expense Contributors
	26.09	CA-297005	Automated System Error Reviews (Phase 2)
	26.11	CA-296573	Targeted nudges and navigation improvements to help workers verify and confirm information accuracy
	27.01	CA-296572	Automatic prompts during interviews to support information capture, clarification, verification, and journal documentation
	TBD	CA-296575	Configurable supervisor authorization enhancements by program and scenario
ABAWD Enhancements	26.05	CA-294575	ACL 25-50 H.R. 1 Changes to ABAWD Exemptions and Expiration of Statewide Waiver
	26.07	CA-298215	ABAWD Enhancement Workgroup - Update Work Registration Exemption Determination for 'Cares for Dependent Child Under 6'
	26.09	CA-298982	ABAWD Enhancement Workgroup - Update ABAWD and Work Registration Determinations
	26.11	CA-297868	ABAWD Enhancement Workgroup - Enhancements to the CF 888 and CF 887 Form Generation, and Work Registration Determination Source Indicator
	27.01	CA-299535	ABAWD Discretionary Exemption Tracking

CalFresh Impacts Dashboard

The 26.07 CalSAWS release implements updates to CalFresh Processing and ABAWD by auto-populating expense contributors, and refining work registration logic to improve processing accuracy and worker efficiency while still requiring review for exceptions.

Change Impacts by Workgroup



OVERVIEW OF IMPACTED WORKGROUPS

WORKGROUP	PAIN POINTS	CURRENT STATE	FUTURE STATE
CALFRESH PROCESSING	County workers must manually identify and enter expense contributors, increasing effort and risk of missed or inconsistent entries.	CalSAWS does not auto-populate contributors; workers must manually build the record for each applicable expense.	➡ CalSAWS will add an Auto-Populate Contributors button for Shelter, Utilities, and Utility Allowance expenses in Create Mode.
ABAWD ENHANCEMENTS	Current logic does not check whether the dependent child is In the Home, which can lead to inaccurate work registration exemption determinations and manual correction.	CalSAWS assigns the Cares for Dependent Child Under 6 work registration exemption based on existing criteria but does not evaluate whether the child is identified as In the Home.	➡ CalSAWS will assign the work registration exemption only when the child is identified as In the Home and all other criteria are met.

Change Impact Breakdown



CalFresh Processing



CalFresh Processing Change Overview Dashboard | 26.07

CA-296576: Automate Expense Contributors

CalSAWS will add an Auto-Populate Contributors button on the Expense Detail page for eligible expenses in Create Mode. It will use qualifying household members to create a contributors record, and workers must review or edit the selection before saving.

CURRENT STATE VS. FUTURE STATE OVERVIEW

- **Current State:** CalSAWS does not auto-populate contributors, so workers must manually create each contributors record for applicable expenses. This adds effort and increases the risk of missed or inconsistent entries
- **Future State:** CalSAWS will add an Auto-Populate Contributors button for Shelter, Utilities, and Utility Allowance expenses in Create Mode

KEY TAKEAWAYS

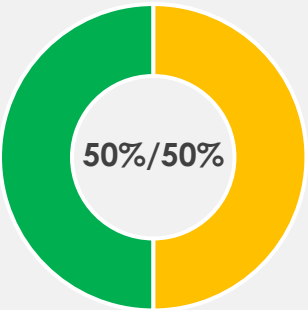
- This change improves efficiency, reduces worker burden, and helps support more accurate, consistent CalFresh case handling by giving workers a system-generated starting point for contributor selection

CHANGE IMPACT INSIGHTS

6

Change Impacts

Staff impact is evenly distributed, with 50% of changes expected to have medium impact and 50% low impact.



■ High (0) ■ Medium (3) ■ Low (3)

Change Impacts Zoomed In (Slide 1 of 2)

CA-296576: Automate Expense Contributors

System Features	Current State	Future State
Updates* are focused on workflow, auto-population logic, editable fields, and create-mode behavior: - Expense Detail: Auto-Populate Contributors button - Expense Detail: Eligible expense category display logic - Contributors record creation: System-generated starting point - Contributors selection logic: Auto-populated Person(s) * Continued next slide.	1. Workers must manually add contributors for an expense; there is no system-generated starting point today.	A new Auto-Populate Contributors button will appear in the Contributors section to help workers generate an initial contributors record faster.
	2. Contributor entry is handled manually without a category-specific shortcut on the Expense Detail page.	The new button will display only in Create Mode for Shelter, Utilities, and Utility Allowance expense categories, targeting the expenses in scope for this change.
	3. Workers create contributor details themselves, one record at a time, as part of expense entry.	When the button is selected, the System will automatically create a Contributors record for the new expense, reducing manual setup effort.
	4. Workers determine and enter each contributor manually, which can create extra effort and inconsistency.	The System will prefill Person(s) using individuals who are in Pending or Active status on a program on the case and have a household status of In the Home.

Change Impacts Zoomed In (Slide 2 of 2)

CA-296576: Automate Expense Contributors

System Features	Current State	Future State
Updates* are focused on workflow, auto-population logic, editable fields, and create-mode behavior: 5. Contributors record defaults: Begin Date logic 6. Create-mode controls: Single-record behavior 7. Expense Contributors Detail: Worker review and edit of Person(s)	5. Begin Date selection is not system-derived as part of an automated contributor creation process. 6. Workers can continue working through manual contributor entry steps without system-driven create-mode limits. 7. Contributor selection is manual today, and there is no auto-generated list for workers to refine.	The System will default Begin Date to the most current CalFresh Pending Application Date; if none exists, it will use the first day of the current month. After a Contributors record is created in Create Mode, no additional contributors record can be created, and both Auto-Populate Contributors and Add will no longer display for that expense entry. On Expense Contributors Detail, the Person(s) field will be editable in Edit Mode when accessed from Expense Detail in Create Mode, so workers can review and adjust the System's suggested contributors before saving.

* Continued from previous slide.



ABAWD Enhancements



ABAWD Enhancements Change Overview Dashboard | 26.07

CA-298215: Update Work Registration Exemption Determination for 'Cares for Dependent Child Under 6'

CalSAWS will tighten work registration logic so the “Cares for Dependent Child under 6” exemption is system-determined only when the child is identified as In the Home, improving worker efficiency and accuracy, while still allowing manual entry for exceptions.

CURRENT STATE VS. FUTURE STATE OVERVIEW

- **Current State:** CalSAWS determines the Cares for Dependent Child Under 6 exemption using existing criteria, but it does not check whether the child is identified as In the Home. As a result, the exemption can still be granted even when the child is not living in the home
- **Future State:** CalSAWS will assign the Cares for Dependent Child Under 6 exemption only when the child is identified as In the Home and all existing criteria are met. Workers can still manually add the exemption when appropriate

KEY TAKEAWAYS

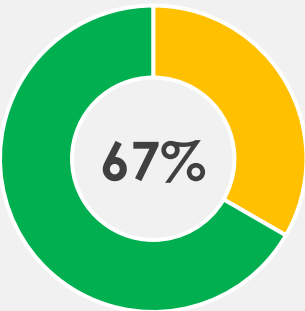
- This change improves CalFresh exemption accuracy and consistency by tying System assignment of the Cares for Dependent Child Under 6 work registration exemption to the child's In the Home status, while preserving manual entry when needed

CHANGE IMPACT INSIGHTS

3

Change Impacts

67% of changes are expected to have a medium impact to staff.



■ High (0) ■ Medium (1) ■ Low (2)

Change Impacts Zoomed In

CA-298215: Update Work Registration Exemption Determination for 'Cares for Dependent Child Under 6'

System Features	Current State	Future State
Updates are focused on eligibility logic and worker handling: 1. Eligibility rules: <i>Cares for Dependent Child Under 6 work registration exemption logic</i> 2. Eligibility rules: <i>"In the Home" requirement for the child</i> 3. Work Registration Detail: <i>Manual exemption entry remains available</i> 4. Ongoing case handling: <i>Recertification and other work registration exemption evaluation</i>	CalSAWS determines this work registration exemption using existing dependent child, parental control, age, and parental control criteria. 1.	CalSAWS will update the exemption logic so the System assigns this exemption only when all existing criteria are met and the child is identified as In the Home.
	The System does not evaluate whether the child is identified as In the Home, so the exemption can be assigned even when the child is not living in the home. 2.	The System will add that a dependent child under the age of 6 be identified with an In the Home status as a required condition for an automatic work registration exemption determination.
	Workers can manually enter work registration exemptions today, including cases that require worker judgment. 3.	Manual entry on the Work Registration Detail page will remain available when the child is not identified as In the Home but the participant still qualifies for the exemption.
	Individuals may continue to be treated as exempt based on current ABAWD and work registration processes. 4.	Ongoing individuals who no longer meet this work registration exemption will continue to have Exempt ABAWD Status until recertification. The System will continue evaluating them for other work registration exemption reasons, and the CF 886 generation will remain unchanged.

Appendix

Change Impact Directory

Current vs. Future State – Change Log Directory

CA-296576: Automate Expense Contributors

Design ID#	Change Name	Critical Change	Current State	Future State
2.1.3	Auto-Populate Contributors button	Add a new Auto-Populate Contributors button on Expense Detail for Shelter, Utilities, and Utility Allowance expense categories in Create Mode to automatically start the contributors entry process.	Workers currently must manually enter all contributors for the expense.	When creating certain expense records, the worker will see a new button that can automatically create the contributors record.
2.1.3	Automatic contributor selection and date defaulting	Auto-populate the contributors record by using eligible case members and default the Begin Date based on defined rules.	Today, the worker manually determines who to add as contributors and enters them directly.	The System will prefill the contributors list and the begin date based on case data, then the worker reviews and adjusts if needed.
2.1.3, 2.2.3	Workers can edit auto-populated contributors	Allow workers to edit an auto-populated contributors record from Expense Detail, including the Person(s) field in Edit mode.	new	The worker can use Edit on the contributors record and update the Person(s) field if the auto-populated list is not fully accurate.
2.1.3, 1.4	Review warning after auto-population	After auto-population, require the worker to review the contributors and resave after a soft validation warning.	new	After using auto-populate, the worker must review the contributors and complete a second save after the warning message.
2.1.3	No-match validation message	Display a soft validation message when no eligible people are available for auto-population and do not create a contributors record.	new	If no eligible people are found, the System will stop the auto-create action and display a message to the worker.
2.1.3	Single contributors record during create mode	Limit Create Mode to one contributors record and remove the Auto-Populate Contributors and Add buttons once that record exists.	New page behavior/rule	The worker creates one contributors record during expense creation and then updates that record rather than adding another one.

Current vs. Future State – Change Log Directory

CA-298215: Update Work Registration Exemption Determination for 'Cares for Dependent Child Under 6'

Design ID#	Change Name	Critical Change	Current State	Future State
1.1, 1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2	Greater importance of household status accuracy	Make household status a required driver of the automatic exemption decision for children under 6.	The dependent child's Household Status did not affect this exemption decision.	The child's Household Status will directly affect whether the work registration exemption is System-derived.
1.4(2), 1.4(3), 1.4(4), 1.4(5)	Manual worker action may be needed in exception cases	Keep manual exemption entry available for exception cases while system logic changes control automatic exemption determination.	Current manual entry functionality already exists and remains unchanged.	System logic will change for automatic work registration exemption determination, while manual entry remains available. Ongoing cases will keep their exempt ABAWD status until recertification, and existing CF 886 logic also remains unchanged.