



California Statewide Automated Welfare System

A decorative graphic on the right side of the page consisting of several concentric circles in various shades of blue and teal. The word "Design" is centered within these circles in a white, sans-serif font.

Design

CA-300620 Update CalFresh Non-Citizen
Eligibility Determination

DOCUMENT APPROVAL HISTORY

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DATE

VERSION

REVISION DESCRIPTION

AUTHOR

08/01/2026

1.0

Initial Draft

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CA-300620 Update CalFresh Non-Citizen Eligibility Determination

1 OVERVIEW

1.1 Current Design

CalFresh EDBC determines non-citizen eligibility to Federal CalFresh or CFAP program based on the document type and section codes combination (a.k.a. Citizenship Documents for the purpose of this document) stored in the code table. If the individual has an eligible combination of 'Document Types' and 'Section Codes' for Federal CalFresh or CFAP:

1. If the individual has federally eligible citizenship documents and meets any federal exceptions or 5-year waiting period, EDBC will determine federal eligibility
2. If the individual has CFAP eligible citizenship documents and does not meet any federal exceptions or 5-year waiting period, EDBC will determine federal eligibility

Individuals are evaluated for the following federal exemption:

- a. If the member is unconditionally CalFresh federally eligible based on their INS Citizenship Category. These qualified aliens are eligible to receive federal CalFresh indefinitely they are admitted or granted one of the following statuses. These are:
 - i. LPR Asylee
 - ii. LPR Cuban Refugee
 - iii. LPR Indochinese Refugee
 - iv. LPR Amerasian
 - v. LPR Refugee
- b. If the members Entry date or INS Document Issue Date is at least 5 years prior to the begin date of the 'Benefit Month.' Exception: this does not apply to members on U-Visa document
- c. If the 'Member' is one of the following: These are:
 - i. Born in the USA
 - ii. Born in US territories
 - iii. Has a citizenship type of 'Naturalized US Citizen'
 - iv. Has a citizenship type of 'US Born Abroad'
- d. Determine if the 'Member' is a 'Hmong' ¹ or a 'Highland Lao Tribal Member' ¹ as indicated by the INS document type and section code and is qualified because of Hmong information (Hmong indicator on Citizenship set to 'Yes')
- e. If the 'Member' is a 'Cross Border American Indian' ¹ as indicated by the INS document type and section code
- f. Determine if the 'Member' is under 18 and the 'Benefit Month' is 10/1/2003 or later

- g. If the 'Member' is under 18 and the 'Member's' entry date or INS document issue date is before 8/22/1996
- h. If the 'Member' is 'Disabled' or 'Blind' or has 'Other FS Disability'
- i. If the person qualifies because of military information (Meets Veteran Status Active-Duty indicator on Citizenship set to 'Yes' or person is a lawful permanent resident veteran as indicated by his document code and section code)
- j. Determine if the 'Member' is a 'Lawful Permanent Resident,' as indicated by his document code and section code, and qualifies for 40 quarters (40 qualifying work quarters indicator on Citizenship set to 'Yes').
- k. Individuals' citizenship type of 'Parolee' with date of entry between 02/24/2022 and 09/30/2023 and has any of the following section codes:
 - i. U4U
 - ii. UHP
- l. Individuals with the following section codes:
 - i. SI8
 - ii. SQ8
- m. Individuals have any of the following prior citizenship documents that are eligible to eligible to the program:
 - i. Refugees
 - ii. Asylee
 - iii. LPR Asylee
 - iv. LPR Cuban Refugee
 - v. LPR Indochinese Refugee
 - vi. LPR Amerasian
 - vii. LPR Refugee
 - viii. Deportation withheld

CalFresh or CFAP eligibility changes outlined in this section are effective HR1 policy and shall be referenced as '**HR1 Policy Effective Date**' as follows:

1. The changes are effective for new applications with an application date 04/01/2026 and after. Or
2. The changes are effective for ongoing applications and new applications with source 'ICT' at recertification with an RE due date 04/2026 or after.

1.2 Requests

1. Update Citizenship documents eligibility to CalFresh and CFAP program.
2. Update non-citizenship eligibility for individuals subjected to 5-year waiting period.

1.3 Overview of Recommendations

1. Update CalFresh and CFAP eligibility determination for non-citizens
2. Update 5-year waiting period criteria for federal eligibility determination.

1.4 Assumptions

1. Citizenship detail page shall remain unchanged with the implementation on this SCR.
2. Per current functionality, for CalFresh program, Ineligible non-citizens are not closed from the program, the applicant is set to 'FRE' with a role reason of 'Ineligible Non-Citizen'. This functionality shall remain unchanged with this SCR.
3. No impacts to TCF/SNB/TNB program.
4. Current functionality to determine each of the non-citizen federal eligibility requirements mentioned in the current design shall remain unchanged unless specifically mentioned in the requirements of this SCR below.
5. Swain islands are part of American Samoa, and these individuals are eligible to federal benefits.
6. SCR CA-297505 shall make changes to the existing citizenship types to be relabeled as recommended by CDSS.
7. Mid-period SAVE changes will be implemented with SCR CA-277040.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 [Page Name] – No Impact

2.2 Update CalFresh Non-Citizen Eligibility Determination

2.2.1 Overview

When running CalFresh EDBC, non-citizen eligibility is determined based on the citizenship documents for the individual. Eligible citizenship documents will be accessed for CalFresh (Federal benefits) or CFAP (State benefits) eligibility. Update eligible citizenship documents for CalFresh based on HR1 policy effective 4/1/2026. For all eligible citizenship documents, update EDBC logic for eligible individuals to determine Federal CalFresh or CFAP funding based on the HR1 policy changes.

5 year waiting period requirement will be updated for certain federally eligible citizenship documents.

2.2.2 Description of Changes

1. Update code detail table to reflect the document type and section codes eligible for CalFresh and CFAP program. The treatment of each combination of document type and section code (Citizenship document) is outlined in 'CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed', 'Federal CalFresh' Sheet in the excel document referred in the supporting document section 3.1 of this document and attached in JIRA. Eligibility to federal CalFresh shall be

accessed for citizenship documents marked as eligible in the code detail table.

- a. Update the CalFresh classification column with the updates to citizenship documents mentioned in the 'Federal CalFresh Eligibility' page in the excel document.
 - i. Existing records beginning 4/1/2026 to high date shall be added with the updated CalFresh eligibility. All other reference columns shall remain the same.

Note: EDBC logic shall be updated to reflect these changes effective '**HR1 Policy Effective Date**' as defined in current design section 1.1.

2. Add new 'CalFresh 5 Year waiting period' reference column to capture the citizenship document that qualify for the federal benefits without 5 year waiting period.
 - a. Update the new 'CalFresh 5 Year waiting period' classification column indicating the citizenship document that eligible to federal benefits without 5 year waiting period effective 04/01/2026.

The citizenship documents that qualify for federal eligibility without the 5-year waiting period are outlined in 'CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed', '5 Year Waiting Period' sheet in the excel document referred in the supporting document section 3.1 of this document and attached in JIRA.

Technical note: all other citizenship document in code table will be defaulted to 'No'

3. Update EDBC logic to determine federal eligibility for federally eligible citizenship documents with 'CalFresh 5 Year waiting period' classification column marked as 'Yes' effective '**HR1 Policy Effective Date**' as defined in current design section 1.1.

2.2.3 Example Scenarios

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.

Example1:

1. CF HH of 1, PN01. PN01 is a non-citizen with the following citizenship document:

- Document Type: I-94
- Section Code: AM8
- Citizenship Type: LPR-Amerasian
- Date of Entry: 01/01/2026

PN01 applied for CalFresh benefits with a BDA of 06/01/2026. Running EDBC for 06/2026, HH was eligible for CalFresh benefits and is determined federal funding due to meeting the 'CalFresh 5 Year waiting period' exception as identified in 2.2.2.2.

2.2.4 Programs Impacted

CalFresh

2.2.5 Performance Impacts

None

2.3 [Batch Name] – No Impact

2.4 [Interface Name] – No Impact

2.5 [eHIT] – No Impact

2.6 Correspondence – 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

NUMBER	FUNCTIONAL AREA	DESCRIPTION	ATTACHMENT
1	Eligibility	CalFresh CFAP eligible citizenship documents	CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed.xlsx

4 OUTREACH

4.1 Lists

List Name: List of CalFresh Cases with Non-Citizens Gaining Eligibility

List Criteria: Generate a list of Active CalFresh cases that have a non-citizen with role 'FRE' and role reason 'Ineligible Non-Citizen' and have citizenship documents marked as '**Eligible**' as in 'CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed',

'Federal CalFresh' Sheet in the excel document referred in the supporting document section 3.1 of this document and attached in JIRA.

Standard Columns:

- Case Name
- Case Number
- County
- Unit
- Unit Name
- Office Name
- Worker ID

Additional Column(s): None

Frequency: One-time

List Name: Lis of CalFresh Cases with Non-Citizens Losing Eligibility

List Criteria: Generate a list of Active CalFresh cases that have a non-citizen with role 'MEM' and have citizenship documents marked as '**Ineligible**' as in 'CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed', 'Federal CalFresh' Sheet in the excel document referred in the supporting document section 3.1 of this document and attached in JIRA.

Standard Columns:

- Case Name
- Case Number
- County
- Unit
- Unit Name
- Office Name
- Worker ID

Additional Column(s): None

Frequency: One-time

List Name: Lis of CalFresh Cases that Qualify for Federal Eligibility

List Criteria: Generate a list of Active CalFresh cases that have an active non-citizen with role 'MEM' and funding source 'Non-Federal' and have citizenship documents identified in 'CA-300620 CalFreshNonCitizenEligibilityUpdates_Fed', '5 Year Waiting Period' Sheet in the excel document referred in the supporting document section 3.1 of this document and attached in JIRA.

Standard Columns:

- Case Name
- Case Number
- County
- Unit
- Unit Name
- Office Name
- Worker ID

Additional Column(s): None

Frequency: One-time

The list will be posted to the following location: CalSAWS Communication Portal>System Changes>SCR and SIR Lists>2026>CA-300620

