

Income Budgeting, Continued

Income Reporting Threshold (IRT)

Customers must be informed of their Income Reporting Threshold (IRT):

- At application,
- At each RERC, and
- When their IRT changes.

The AR 2 – Reporting Changes For Cash Aid and CalFresh will be used to notify AR/CO customers of their IRT.

Customers must report within 10 days when the total combined earned and unearned income exceeds the IRT, even if the income is received mid-year. The IRT for AR/CO CalWORKs cases is the amount of income likely to render the recipient ineligible for CalWORKs benefits (see "CalWORKs AR/CO IRT" block).

AR/CO cases with income over the IRT will result in discontinuance of the CalWORKs program at the end of the month following timely and adequate notice.

CalWORKs AR/CO IRT

The CalWORKs AR/CO IRT is the level likely to render an AU ineligible for CalWORKs benefits as listed in the following chart:

Assistance Unit Size (AU)	Maximum Earned Income Limit - Non-Exempt	Maximum Earned Income Limit - Exempt
0	\$113	\$113
1	\$717	\$717
2	\$1,052	\$1,212
3	\$1,328	\$1,474
4	\$1,562	\$1,730
5	\$1,762	\$1,958
6	\$1,964	\$2,182
7	\$2,144	\$2,386
8	\$2,330	\$2,590
9	\$2,528	\$2,792
10 or more	\$2,684	\$2,990

Note: AR/CO cases discontinued for over IRT will be evaluated for Transitional CalFresh (TCF) per established policy when appropriate.

Continued on next page

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Book Descriptions:

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Changes have been highlighted in blue text. Effective July 1, 2011, adults will only be eligible to receive CalWORKs for a maximum of 48 countable months. This new 48month time limit replaces the 60month CalWORKs clock, which was implemented January 1, 1998. Staff must continue to count all federal nonexempt months of TANF assistance in all states, including CalWORKs, whether or not the month was exempted from the CalWORKs time limit as the exemptions apply differently for TANF. If the adult reaches their TANF 60month TOA and they do not meet a federal extender, the TANF timedout aid code will change to 32state or 3W mixed state and the case will be aided using state funds, providing the adult has remaining CalWORKs TOA that are under CalWORKs 48month. When the timedout adult is removed from the AU and only the eligible children remain active, the case will be funded using state funds and considered a Safety Net case with aid code 3A Timedout Safety Net All other family or 3C Timedout Safety Net two parent family. After they exhaust 24 months of subsidized child care in Stage One and Two, a former recipient may continue to receive subsidized child care under Stage Three as long as they continue to meet eligibility requirements and funding is available. It will be modified to calculate and track the CalWORKs state 48month clock, and the TANF Federal 60month clock statewide. The county receives monthly reports that include a summary and detailed list of active individuals who are approaching the TANF 60month time clock and CalWORKs 48month time clocks. These reports reflect when a client is within two and six months 42th and 46th month of the expiration of their CalWORKs 48month time clocks. For twoparent cases, the case becomes a childonly Safety Net case when all the aided adults in the AU have reached their time limit and have been discontinued.<http://gallery4walls.com/upload/editer/flowserve-valtek-mark-one-manual.xml>

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On a ongoing basis, the removal of adult from the AU and the resulting grant reduction will be effective the first of the following month in which the adult reaches their CalWORKs 48month time limit. It is considered an allowable midquarter action. The ET will only retroactively apply an exemption and thereby untick the clock if it is determined that the recipient requested and met the exemption criteria and the county failed to act timely or as determined by the Social Worker. For more information about this process refer to CalWORKs Handbook 427.7. See TOA exemption chart below. For more information regarding the specific fields that must be completed on the following data collection windows, refer to CalWORKs and Employment Newsletter 0801. Determined by Social Worker. See CalWIN How To 291. Determined by Social Worker. See CalWIN How To 291. DO NOT manually untick the time clock. The clock should untick based on the entries made in data collection and in the ES Subsystem for manual exemptions. Refer to CalWORKs and Employment Newsletter 0801 and CalWORKs Handbook 426.1 for detailed information. In Alameda County, the TEMP 2251 was added to the CalWORKs application and RRR packets. For the initial six months of implementation, the counties are required to provide a 30day NOA to cases that will be affected. This will temporarily replace the existing 10day NOA requirement. A NOA M40107 will be sent 10 days prior to the notifying adults who have reached their 48month time limit. Notice of Actions NOAs are required to be sent at application for aid, at each reinvestigation RV process, at 42nd or 46th month, at the client's or former client's request, and when a former client applies for cash aid

in another state. An alert is generated and the case is flagged notifying ET that the customer has reached his 42nd and 46th month TOA. It is included in both the application and RV packets. The email should include The other state responds. <http://vicotours.it/foto/food-service-manual-uscg.xml>

Do not authorize until correction has been completed. The ET should complete their review prior to sending the NOA. The time clock will not stop ticking unless ESD is notified and then applies the exemption for the retro month in the ES Subsystem. DO NOT manually untick the clock. Complete manual variables. The email should include The email should include The email should include In addition, the ET will notify the receiving county if there are any exemption or extenders. The case was sent to closed files. In July 2011, the state where our former client now lives contacts Alameda County for TOA information. The caller is then referred to the Closed Over Ninety Days worker. The email should include Only out of state TOA received after January 1, 1998 will be recorded on the CalWORKs and TANF time clock. The CalWORKs 48month and countable months used and remaining will display effective July 1, 2011. For example, a person that has 50 months in June will show 10 CalWORKs months remaining on June 30, 2011 and 2 CalWORKs months remaining on July 1, 2011. In the above example, when EDBC runs at the end of May, the individual will fail for July 2011 due to the CalWORKs 48month time limit and their status for July will reflect timedout parent. However, the time clock on the Display NonFinancial Eligibility Summary, CalWORKs tab, Display Time Clock window will still reflect that there are 10 months remaining until it is actually July 2011, then it will display that there are 0 months remaining. SSA continues to apply best practices in business operations including the development of written policies that provide SSA employees with written documentation defining their roles and responsibilities within predefined limits. These policies are revised on a periodic basis.

Although SSA strives to provide the most current version of these documents on this website, certain policies may currently be undergoing revision, thus, updated versions may be posted on this website at a later date. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the policies. A textonly Adobe Reader is available if you are using a screen reader or need an earlier version of Adobe Reader. If you need help downloading click here. The County of Orange cannot attest to the accuracy of the information provided by the linked websites. Any link to an external website is not intended as an endorsement of that external website, any product or service offered or referenced to or any views that might be expressed or referenced therein. The program is designed to provide families the means to meet their basic needs in times of hardship, while helping them to enter or reenter the workforce and become selfsufficient. Although most of the information needed to determine eligibility must be verified through third party documentation, it is kept confidential and is not used for any purpose that is not directly related to the administration of the program. However, there are certain exceptions to this rule. Further details about time limits will be provided during the application process or by clicking here. Through the use of a plastic card like an ATM card and a Personal Identification Number PIN, a CalWORKs recipient can access their account for a cash withdrawal at any time from a retailer, bank or ATM that displays the EBT logo. The card can also be used for purchases at any store that has an EBT display. Developed by BCT Consulting, Inc. A Fresno Web Design firm. Register to create a new account. Dont sign in now. Whats this Close My DB101 With a DB101 account, you can Save favorite DB101 pages. Find favorite DB101 minitools easily. Automatically save your Calculator sessions and return to them later.

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of these Submit Close Forgot Password Email Submit Close Reset Password Email New Password Confirm New Password Submit Close Session Expired Please log in again. Close Add Organization Key Display Name Submit Close Add To Role User Email Address Role Submit Close Title Close Congratulations Youve finished the Calculator. Spend some time looking at your results. Then go back to your Vault to learn more. If you need help or have questions about your situation, you can call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 18669687842 or 18668332967 TTY, Monday through Friday. Here are a few examples Some Goodwill Industries centers also do benefits planning for people who get SSI, SSDI, and Medicare. Find locations at www.Goodwill.org, or by calling voice 18004663945. Many of these centers do benefits planning for people who get SSI, SSDI, and Medicare. If they dont offer benefits planning themselves, Independent Living Centers can refer you to local benefits planners. Find the list of independent living centers at www.CFILC.org, or by calling voice 19163251690 or TTY 19163251695. Some of these organizations provide case management, benefits planning, and benefits counseling services that can include help with public and private benefits programs. You can search the list online, or call voice 1800367AIDS 2437 or TTY 1888225AIDS 2437.

Website publications include topics on health care, benefit programs, and InHome Supportive Services. Add favorite articles and tools to your list while you browse the site. Add favorite articles and tools to your list while you browse the site. Try the benefits planning Estimators. More sessions. CalWORKs recipients are assessed to determine the best course of action, whether it is immediate placement into a job, placement into an education or training program, or both. All WelfaretoWork participants receive an orientation to the program and appraisal of their education and employment background, followed by the development of a WTW plan designed to assist individuals with obtaining employment. WTW participants may be eligible to supportive services such as child care and transportation services.. Anyone receiving CalWORKs cash aid must participate in the WelfaretoWork program unless that person is exempt. Individuals are exempt when they have a good reason for not participating, such as being ill or incapacitated or are caring for an incapacitated person. If you do, then we will assess your education and work history. You may be scheduled for a twoweek Job Club where you will learn basic job search skills, resume writing, Consumer Credit information, and other topics related to preparing you for the job market. If you do not have a job after completing Job Club, you will be scheduled for two weeks of Job Search. You may also have a more indepth assessment to help you remove any barriers that may be preventing you from finding and keeping a job. Most expenses, such as the cost of transportation, are paid by the WelfaretoWork Program. Generally child care expenses will be paid unless you choose a provider that charges higher rates then we can pay. Once placed in a job, you will receive additional help with work supplies and continued help with transportation and child care.

The WelfaretoWork Program can pay for the cost of approved education or training program, books and supplies, transportation, and child care costs. Once the training is completed, additional support is made available to you to find a job in that field. If you continue to receive CalWORKs cash aid, you may also be eligible for transportation, child care and other supportive services to help you advance in your job. If you are otherwise eligible, child care supportive services can continue for 24 months and beyond. You may want to connect with our business services team. You can receive advice on how to plan career advancement strategies. Job retention services may include supportive services, mentoring, education services, adult basic education or Englishasasecondlanguage in addition to child care and transportation. You can also receive services through the OneStop Centers. The program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally in Yolo County by the Health and Human Services Agency. Families that apply and qualify for ongoing assistance receive money each month to help pay for housing, food and other necessary expenses. The amount of a familys monthly assistance payment depends on a number of factors, including the number of people who are eligible and the special needs of any of those family members. The income of the family is considered in

calculating the amount of cash aid the family receives. Generally, services are available to You will be given an appointment to return and complete the application process. To expedite the process, you are advised to bring the following items with you if applicable Website Design by Granicus Connecting People and Government. Established in 1998, the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids CalWORKs program provides cash assistance to very low-income families with few assets.

Most eligible parents must make progress toward finding and keeping a job or face loss of their grant; children remain eligible regardless of their parents' program status. As of 2017, the vast majority 81.4% of CalWORKs recipients are children. CalWORKs is jointly funded by federal, state, and county governments. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families TANF allocates federal funding through block grants, which give states latitude in spending. But block grants do not increase when more families qualify for assistance, and federal funding has remained flat—or declined, in inflation-adjusted terms—since TANF was enacted in 1996. In 2013, policymakers revamped work requirements and increased funding for related work services; some of the cuts to grants were also reversed. The number of California adults and children receiving cash assistance peaked in the mid-1990s at about 2.7 million; it dropped to fewer than 1.2 million in 2007. Both policy changes and economic growth contributed to this decline. After rising during the Great Recession, the CalWORKs caseload dropped again as the economy improved; the latest data June 2017 show 1.1 million recipients—almost 200,000 adults and nearly 860,000 children. National evidence indicates that California serves more families than other states do in 2015, 65 out of every 100 in poverty received assistance, compared with a national average of 23. These estimates include both CalWORKs recipients and family members who share resources. One of the goals of CalWORKs is to reduce child poverty; its statewide impact—a 2.3 percentage point reduction—ranks third among large-scale safety net programs. CalFresh food assistance and the federal EITC each mitigate child poverty by 4 percentage points—and each provides more total benefits than CalWORKs. CalWORKs tends to lower poverty more in inland areas and less in coastal counties. Counties whose poverty rates cannot be calculated individually are grouped.

All estimates are subject to uncertainty due to sampling variability; uncertainty is greater for less-populous counties and county groups because of smaller sample sizes. Asterisks indicate sample sizes under 2,000. For more about the CPM, see our poverty JTF. For more county-level information and for poverty rates by state assembly, state senate, and federal congressional districts, see our data page. Much of the program's complexity lies in state and county efforts to move adults toward employment and self-sufficiency. The federal measure of state performance is a relatively narrow work participation rate. Parents may face complex challenges that hamper their ability to meet the federal standard. National research finds that behavioral and physical health problems and providing care for children with special needs are common barriers. A third key challenge is insufficient education fewer than one in ten CalWORKs adults have education beyond high school, while about six in ten California adults overall do. State and county officials remain concerned about adequately funding grants and services amid competing demands for state dollars and declining federal support. They are also pushing for improved measures of program outcomes. The recently enacted CalWORKs Outcomes and Accountability Review CalOAR system will be developed and implemented over the next several years, promising to assess the economic wellbeing of current and past CalWORKs recipients more fully than the federal performance measure. Welfare-to-Work is a comprehensive statewide employment program designed to enable participants to achieve self-sufficiency through employment. The intent of the Welfare-to-Work program is to provide employment and training services to virtually all adult CalWORKs recipients. The program also provides supportive services, such as transportation, to assist individuals in meeting work requirements. Families may be responsible for paying a small portion of the Child Care expense.

The following are also under the umbrella of the Foster Care program Case information and specifics will not be discussed online. Reasonable efforts have been made to provide an accurate translation, however, no automated translation is perfect nor is it intended to replace human translators. Some content such as images, videos, Flash, etc. may not be accurately translated due to the limitations of the translation software. Any discrepancies or differences created in the translation are not binding and have no legal effect for compliance or enforcement purposes. If any questions arise related to the accuracy of the information contained in the translated website, please refer to the English version of the website which is the official version. CalWORKs provides time-limited cash benefits to families with children when one or both parents are absent, disabled, deceased or unemployed. If eligible for CalWORKs, you automatically qualify for MediCal and may also qualify for CalFresh. Learn more here However, some basic eligibility factors are If you are pregnant with no other children, you must be in your second trimester of pregnancy with verification of pregnancy. Because there are many kinds of deductions, you are encouraged to apply even if your income is close the countable amount. See if you are eligible here. Tell your case worker you have an emergency. Immediate Need payments may be available to families in emergency situations while the CalWORKs application is being processed. Emergency situations may include, but are not limited to, the following Most families have their benefits automatically deposited during the first three days of each month on a plastic debit card called an Electronic Benefit Transfer EBT card. Your EBT card lets you access your benefits at Point of Sale devices in stores or at Automated Teller Machines ATM.

If you select direct deposit, your monthly benefits are placed directly in your checking or savings account at your own bank each month. Locations of Point of Sale devices and ATMs can be found here. You may log on to the California EBT Client Website or call 18773289677 to learn more. For more information on State CalWORKs regulations, you may visit the State of California Department of Services website at. We are here for you every step of the way. Our highly skilled A rule of thumb The goal is to help students obtain a better The dates, times and locations Please contact the front Also remember to All students interested in workstudy will be PEP is a series of 6 workshops that are If you received If, you find yourself being penalized for workstudy Should you still not get resolution, please What can I do If you don't The back of every notice of action contains If you ask for a Always keep a copy of this request! Generally this means a bus pass. You can get payment for car mileage if No bus service is available, or The takes longer than one hour each way. The county's policy must be in Board Agenda Your browser does not support JavaScript. As a result, the welfare fraud investigation staff was reduced 34 %, eliminating 15 highly experienced investigator positions. Needy California families that meet eligibility standards receive cash and services from the State's CalWORKS welfare program. In Orange County, CalWORKS is operated by SSA, which determines whether needy families will receive money each month to help pay for housing, food and other necessities. These funds come from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families TANF federal block grant administered by the County. A critical part of this program is fraud detection and prevention. The State Auditor's November 2009 report praised Orange County for operating one of the most successful welfare fraud detection programs in the state in 2008.

The Auditor said that Social Services Agency had achieved the best use of fraud investigation staff in compliance with state guidelines. CalWIN California shared computer program for checking eligibility information CalWORKS California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for kids CDSS California Department of Social Services. SFIS State Finger Printing Imaging System SSA Social Services Agency TANF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families California State Audit Report November, 2009 for Calendar Year 2008 1 2009 2010 Orange County Grand Jury But the recession that began in 2008 negatively impacted the county budget all departments were asked to trim their budgets, and SSA was one of them. During this period, SSA cut only 3% of its eligibility and intake staff, although the number of fraud detection personnel was slashed 34%. There are plans to restore

eligibility and intake staff to more than their former levels but to continue the reduced level of fraud investigation personnel. Social Services Agency's primary emphasis is the disbursement of grant funds, while fraud detection and prevention receive limited priority. With the reduction of staff because of budget cuts, Social Services Agency's intake social workers were assigned to the task of deciding whether to refer cases of suspected fraud to the district attorney for investigation. Even after being informed that Social Services Agency would put greater emphasis on fraud detection at the intake level, the Grand Jury found no evidence that the number of fraud investigators was being restored to previous levels or that the elimination of mandatory referrals was being reversed or a replacement process was put in place. The money disbursed to needy families is money well spent. However, SSA also has a critical responsibility to ensure that these payments are made only to those deserving of the aid who meet all eligibility and grant requirements.

Social Services Agency is performing its function in disbursing benefits; however, it is not controlling the fraudulent aspects of these benefit programs. The Grand Jury reviewed the welfare fraud detection process with regard to CalWORKS to better understand the effects of the 2009 budget cutbacks and reduced commitment to fraud prevention. The goal of this report is to highlight the issues, limitations and constraints placed on the CalWORKS program with regard to fraud detection and prevention. In section 6 of this report the Grand Jury offers recommendations that could reduce the amount of misspent money, improve a difficult work environment and offer some structural alternatives that will prove useful during a period of great financial stress and in the future.

3. METHOD OF STUDY The Grand Jury completed its study through a series of structured interviews with intake staff and welfare fraud investigators at all SSA offices as well as in-depth discussions with the administrative and program leadership of the agency. The Grand Jury also studied the November 2009 report by the State Auditor regarding administration of welfare fraud programs, internal reports and documents issued by Social Services Agency and documentation of the Fraud Investigation Unit of the Orange County District Attorney's Office. Additionally, the Grand Jury reviewed all appropriate state and federal guidelines regarding fraud detection and reports published by prior Orange County Grand Juries.

4. BACKGROUND AND FACTS

4.1 CalWORKS Program The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids CalWORKS program was established by the Thompson-Maddy-Ducheny-Ashburn Welfare-to-Work act of 1997 Assembly Bill AB 1542.

4.2 CalWORKS is a welfare program that gives cash aid and services to eligible needy California families. The program is intended to provide support to families and care for children while the family participates in welfare-to-work programs.

The program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally by county welfare departments. In Orange County this is the Social Services Agency. If families have little or no cash and need housing, food, utilities, clothing or medical care; they may be eligible to receive immediate short-term help. Families that apply and qualify for ongoing assistance receive money each month to help pay for housing, food and other necessary expenses. By regulation, this program is structured to help insure that benefit payments are accurate and meet eligibility standards, and that applicants providing fraudulent information are investigated and prosecuted for violation of fraud statutes.

4.3 Mission Statement and Business Plan In Social Services Agency's mission statement and business plan, the Grand Jury noted the absence of any reference to fraud detection, prevention, CDSS website, "California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids CalWORKS" 4 California DSS MANUAL CFC9801 20003 page 18 3 2009-2010 Orange County Grand Jury prosecution or the role such efforts might play in the overall strategy of the agency. Further investigation and interviews with SSA staff found the agency's purpose was primarily to disburse funds to the needy and that fraud detection was of minor concern. The Grand Jury found an insignificant role for fraud detection and prevention in the overall philosophy of the agency. Financial aid for eligible needy families is money well spent. These taxpayer funds should be properly guarded. Evidence indicates that many of those receiving aid are doing so fraudulently. This funding has increased over 2%

during the first two quarters of 2009 with growth anticipated at this level well into 2010. The amount of a family's monthly assistance payment depends on a number of factors, including the number of people who are eligible and the special needs within the family.

The income of the family is considered in calculating the amount of cash aid the family receives.⁶ Families on CalWORKS may qualify for other programs and benefits by being on CalWORKS, including food stamps, medical coverage and child support. In each case, applicants must be eligible for the specific aid requested.

4.4 State Audit Findings The California Department of Social Services Audit Report for November 2009 report states that CalWORKS lacks an assessment of cost effectiveness and has missed opportunities to improve antifraud efforts. Although Orange County SSA has taken some steps, the agency has not performed any meaningful analyses to determine cost effectiveness in detecting and deterring fraud in the CalWORKS program. Orange County Social Services Agency investigated a higher percentage of CalWORKS applicants than other counties. In addition, the State Audit determined that early detection was a more efficient way to determine eligibility and prevent fraudulent payments. Orange County's emphasis on detection of fraud through ongoing monitoring of recipients was not as cost effective.

4.5 Social Services Agency Reports The Grand Jury found that SSA does not effectively utilize available statistics and reports to manage the fraud detection program. Most statistics used by SSA are those reported and maintained by the District Attorney's office. Without effective use of records, it is impossible to determine totals of suspected or confirmed fraud.

4.6 Elimination of Mandatory Fraud Referral Categories In 2009 due to budget shortfalls, SSA dramatically reduced its support for welfare fraud and detection. The number of District Attorney Public Assistance Division DAPAD contract fraud investigators was reduced from 44 to 29. Fraud Alerts from previous applications investigations In addition, Fraud Alerts are no longer mandatory.