

The Maximum Family Grant (MFG) Rule for Recipients of Cash Aid

The MFG Rule:

Your maximum aid payment (MAP) **will not** go up to include a child born to your family, if your family got cash aid for the 10 months in a row right before the child's birth.

It is very important that you show this notice to any member of your family who could become a parent.

Facts about the MFG rule...

- the MFG rule could apply to any child born after **July 31, 1997**
- if you have another child and have been on cash aid for 10 months in a row just before the birth of that child, you **will not** get a higher MAP when this child is added to your case
- this child will still be eligible for:
 - Medi-Cal
 - Food Stamps
 - other AFDC benefits, such as child care when the parent goes to work
- all child support payments received by the District Attorney's office for this child will be given to your family and will not be counted as income for cash aid
- the MFG Rule will always apply to this child until your entire family has been off cash aid for at least 24 months in a row

Here's how the MFG rule works...

A mother with one child has been on cash aid for more than 10 months in a row. The mother has a child that is added to the case.

The old rule: The MAP for the family goes up.

The MFG rule: The MAP for the family **does not** go up.

MFG rule will **not** apply...

- if your entire family was off cash aid for at least two months in a row during the 10 months before the birth of this child
- if this child is not living with either parent
- to a child conceived by a non-needy caretaker relative while getting cash aid for another child, such as his/her nephew, niece, or grandchild
- to any child that was conceived because of:
 1. rape or incest:

You must report the rape or incest no later than three months after the birth of the child to a:

- law enforcement agency or
- medical or mental health professional or
- social services agency

In the case of incest, a report need not be made if paternity has been established.

2. the failure of:
 - an intrauterine device or Norplant or
 - the sterilization of either parent

You must give medical proof of any failure of a listed birth control method.

If you have any questions about the MFG rule, ask your worker.

Are you interested in Family Planning Services?

With Family Planning Services, you can...

- prevent unplanned pregnancies
- plan when to have your next child
- choose the birth control method that is best for you

Family Planning Services can give you...

- birth control supplies for women and men
- pregnancy tests
- education/counseling
- and more

You can get Family Planning Services free while on cash aid...

- from your regular Medi-Cal health care plan, doctor, or community clinic
- from other doctors or clinics that accept Medi-Cal

You have the right to go to a doctor or clinic of your choice even if they are not a part of your health care plan.

If you want Family Planning Services...

call your health care plan or regular doctor or for information and the location of confidential Family Planning Services near you, **call toll-free: 1-800-942-1054.**