

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 11, 2007

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-75-07

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY CAPI PROGRAM MANAGERS**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

- State Law Change
 Federal Law or Regulation Change
 Court Order or Settlement Agreement
 Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
 Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: JANUARY 2008 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS THAT AFFECT THE CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANTS (CAPI) AND CAPI BENEFIT AMOUNT WHEN SPOUSE RECEIVES SSI/SSP

REFERENCE: ACIN I-81-03 and ACL 99-13

This All-County Information Notice (ACIN) provides the new Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) Payment Standards, effective January 1, 2008, and June 1, 2008, and clarification for computing benefits for a CAPI recipient whose spouse receives Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP). The attached CAPI Payment Standards charts detail the payment standards that will be effective on January 1, 2008, and on June 1, 2008.

As required by Section 18941 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), the CAPI payment standards are based on the SSI/SSP payment standards, minus \$10.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a couple. Under the provisions of Senate Bill (SB) 84 (Chapter 177, Statutes of 2007), the State SSP Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) is delayed from January 1, 2008, until June 1, 2008. Although there will be no increase in the State-funded SSP amount in January, WIC Section 12201.05 does require that the SSI/SSP payment standards be increased by the amount of the federal SSI COLA on January 1, 2008. The increased CAPI Payment Standards, which will become effective on January 1, 2008, and June 1, 2008 are the result of the federal COLA for SSI and the State COLA for SSP respectively, and are reflected in the attached charts.

The separate federal SSI COLA also affects the following values for the entire calendar year that can impact CAPI eligibility and benefit amounts effective on January 1, 2008:

PRESUMED MAXIMUM VALUE (PMV) OF IN-KIND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

- To compute this value, take 1/3 of the federal SSI amount and add \$20.00. This changes the PMV from \$227.66 to \$232.33 for an individual and from \$331.33 to \$338.66 for a couple.

ALLOWANCE FOR INELIGIBLE CHILDREN IN DEEMING SITUATIONS

- To compute this allowance, determine the difference between the federal SSI benefit amount for a couple and the federal SSI benefit amount for an individual. This computation changes the allowance from \$311.00 to \$319.00.
- This allowance is entered, when appropriate, on the Income Eligibility Worksheet (SOC 452), line B.2.a, when determining a CAPI benefit amount for a case involving deemed income from an ineligible spouse, or on line A.4.a. of the Income Eligibility-Child worksheet (SOC 452A) when determining eligibility for a minor child and income must be deemed from his or her parent(s).

SPONSOR'S ALLOCATION IN ALIEN DEEMING SITUATIONS

- This allocation equals the federal SSI rate for an individual. The federal SSI COLA changes the allocation from \$623.00 to \$637.00.
- This allowance is entered, when appropriate, on the Sponsor to Alien Deeming Worksheet (SOC 454), line 2, when determining a CAPI benefit amount for a case involving deemed income from a sponsor.

ALLOWANCE FOR PARENT(S) IN PARENT-TO-CHILD DEEMING SITUATIONS

- The allowance for one parent is equal to the federal SSI Individual rate. The allowance for two parents is equal to the federal SSI Couple rate. The federal SSI COLA changes the allowance from \$623 to \$637 for one parent, and from \$934 to \$956 for two parents.
- This allowance is entered on the Income Eligibility-Child worksheet (SOC 452A) when determining eligibility for a minor child and income must be deemed from his or her parent(s).

COLA COORDINATION WHEN ONE SPOUSE RECEIVES SSI/SSP

As stated above, WIC Section 18941 requires CAPI benefits to be equivalent to SSI/SSP benefits except that the CAPI payment standards must be \$10.00 less for an individual and \$20.00 less for a couple. A unique situation arises when one member of a couple receives SSI/SSP and the other receives CAPI. All-County Letter (ACL) No. 99-13 addressed this situation by requiring counties to count the SSI/SSP benefits received by one member as income while using a special payment standard that is \$10.00 less than the SSI/SSP payment standard for a couple. The intended result of

this policy is that the CAPI/SSI/SSP couple receives combined benefits that total \$10.00 less than the SSI/SSP benefit rate for a couple as required by WIC Section 18941.

However, the intended result will NOT occur for a CAPI/SSI/SSP couple if normal retrospective budgeting of the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit is used to determine CAPI payment in the effective month of a COLA and the subsequent month. Using a January COLA for example, under normal retrospective counting rules the CAPI recipient's January and February payments would be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit from November and December respectively – before the SSI/SSP COLA in January – resulting in the CAPI/SSI/SSP couple receiving higher combined benefits in January and February than either the SSI/SSP or CAPI couple.

In order to comply with WIC Section 18941, counties are hereby instructed, for CAPI/SSI/SSP couples, to prospectively budget the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit in the month that a COLA occurs and the subsequent month. Using a January COLA for example, the CAPI recipient's January payment should be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP January payment, and the CAPI recipient's February payment should be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP February payment.

Using January 2008 as an example, the difference between retrospective and prospective budgeting is illustrated in the following table:

	Retrospective Budget	Prospective Budget
01/08 CAPI/SSI Couple rate	\$1,514	\$1,514
Spouse's SSI/SSP used in budget calculation	- 856 (11/07)	- 870 (01/08)
01/08 CAPI payment	\$ 658	\$ 644
Total income actually received by couple in 01/08	\$1,528	\$1,514
<i>The total payment of \$1,528 received in this example under retrospective budgeting is derived from the Spouse's SSI/SSP payment of January, 2008, plus the CAPI payment of January, 2008, and exceeds both the SSI/SSP couple rate of \$1,524 and the CAPI/SSI couple payment rate of \$1,514. Therefore, the prospective budget must be used.</i>		

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Any questions regarding these adjustments should be directed to the Adult Programs Branch, Operations and Technical Assistance Unit at (916) 229-4000.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed by

EVA L. LOPEZ
Deputy Director
Adult Programs Division

Attachment

c: CWDA

CAPI PAYMENT STANDARDS
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008
BASED ON JANUARY 2008 SSI/SSP STANDARDS

	INDEPENDENT LIVING			REDUCED NEEDS			NON-MEDICAL OUT-OF-HOME CARE (NMOHC)					
	RESIDING IN OWN HOUSEHOLD			HOUSEHOLD OF ANOTHER WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD			HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD AND CERTIFIED NMOHC		HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITHOUT IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD		IN LICENSED FACILITY OR HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE	
	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP
INDIVIDUAL:												
AGED OR DISABLED	860.00	870.00	648.67	658.67	821.67	821.67	831.67	831.67	1,039.00	1,049.00		
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	944.00	954.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
BLIND	925.00	935.00	729.67	739.67	821.67	821.67	831.67	831.67	1,039.00	1,049.00		
DISABLED MINOR												
- living with parent(s)	746.00	756.00	522.67	532.67	821.67	821.67	831.67	831.67	1,039.00	1,049.00		
- living with non-parent relative or non-relative guardian	746.00	756.00	522.67	532.67	821.67	821.67	831.67	831.67	1,039.00	1,049.00		
COUPLE:												
AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,504.00	1,524.00	1,213.00	1,233.00	1,663.00	1,673.00	1,683.00	1,683.00	2,078.00	2,088.00		
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	1,672.00	1,692.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
BLIND												
- per couple	1,731.00	1,751.00	1,440.00	1,460.00	1,663.00	1,673.00	1,683.00	1,683.00	2,078.00	2,088.00		
BLIND/AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,646.00	1,666.00	1,354.00	1,374.00	1,663.00	1,673.00	1,683.00	1,683.00	2,078.00	2,088.00		

1/ RMA - Restaurant Meals Allowance - \$84 Individual, \$168 Couple

TITLE XIX MEDICAL FACILITY		
	Individual	Couple
Total CAPI	\$40	\$80
SSI/SSP	50	100

ESTIMATED CAPI PAYMENT STANDARDS
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008
BASED ON JUNE 2008 SSI/SSP STANDARDS

	INDEPENDENT LIVING			REDUCED NEEDS			NON-MEDICAL OUT-OF-HOME CARE (NMOHC)					
	RESIDING IN OWN HOUSEHOLD			HOUSEHOLD OF ANOTHER WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD			HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD AND CERTIFIED NMOHC		HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITHOUT IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD		IN LICENSSED FACILITY OR HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE	
	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI	TOTAL SSI/SSP
INDIVIDUAL:												
AGED OR DISABLED	878.00	888.00	663.00	673.00	843.00	843.00	853.00	853.00	1,063.00	1,073.00		
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	965.00	975.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
BLIND	945.00	955.00	747.00	757.00	843.00	843.00	853.00	853.00	1,063.00	1,073.00		
DISABLED MINOR	759.00	769.00	533.00	543.00	843.00	843.00	853.00	853.00	1,063.00	1,073.00		
- living with parent(s)	759.00	769.00	533.00	543.00	843.00	843.00	853.00	853.00	1,063.00	1,073.00		
- living with non-parent relative or non-relative guardian												
COUPLE:												
AGED OR DISABLED	1,538.00	1,558.00	1,243.00	1,253.00	1,710.00	1,720.00	1,730.00	1,730.00	2,126.00	2,146.00		
- per couple	1,712.00	1,732.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/												
BLIND	1,773.00	1,793.00	1,479.00	1,489.00	1,710.00	1,720.00	1,730.00	1,730.00	2,126.00	2,146.00		
- per couple												
BLIND/AGED OR DISABLED	1,685.00	1,705.00	1,390.00	1,400.00	1,710.00	1,720.00	1,730.00	1,730.00	2,126.00	2,146.00		
- per couple												

1/ RMA - Restaurant Meals Allowance - \$87 Individual; \$174 Couple

TITLE XIX MEDICAL FACILITY		
	Individual	Couple
Total CAPI	\$42	\$84
SSI/SSP	52	104