



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • [www.cdss.ca.gov](http://www.cdss.ca.gov)



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

**REASON FOR THIS  
TRANSMITTAL**

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

June 11, 2013

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 13-48

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL CALFRESH COORDINATORS  
ALL COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS  
ALL COUNTY CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CaWORKs): COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM BASIC STANDARD OF ADEQUATE CARE (MBSAC) LEVELS

REFERENCE: WELFARE & INSTITUTIONS (W&I) CODE SECTIONS 11450, 11452, and 11453; ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 11-29

**MBSAC INCREASE**

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of an increase to the CalWORKs MBSAC levels effective July 1, 2013. The W&I Code Section 11453 provides CalWORKs MBSAC levels shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the cost of living. This year's COLA increases the MBSAC and Income-In-Kind (IIK) levels by 2.65 percent. The new MBSAC levels are to be used in determining applicant financial eligibility for those families that apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2013.

The new CalWORKs MBSAC Payment Standards Chart for Regions 1 and 2 is enclosed to assist in implementing these changes. The new IIK levels are included in this chart as these amounts also increased as a result of the MBSAC COLA.

Per W&I Code Section 11453(c)(6), beginning in Fiscal Year 2010-11, no adjustment to the maximum aid payment (MAP) levels shall be made unless otherwise specified by statute. As there has been no COLA increase to the CalWORKs MAP levels, refer to ACL No. 11-29 for current and ongoing MAP levels, which have been in effect since July 1, 2011.

If a County Welfare Department (CWD) is unable to implement the new MBSAC level in a timely manner for applicants by July 1, 2013, the CWD must take immediate steps to review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2013, if the sole reason for denial was failure to pass the applicant financial eligibility income test.

For existing recipients, the MBSAC COLA change is a county-initiated mid-quarter action; therefore, the new IIK amounts should be used prospectively as soon as timely and adequate notice can be provided.

**REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE (RCA), ENTRANT CASH ASSISTANCE (ECA), AND TRAFFICKING AND CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TCVAP)**

These implementation instructions for the MBSAC COLA and the IIK changes shall also apply to RCA, ECA, and TCVAP (cash assistance and CalWORKs) applicants and recipients effective July 1, 2013.

**CONTACTS**

If you have questions or need additional information regarding this ACL, please contact the following CDSS representatives:

- CalWORKs Eligibility County Consultant (916) 654-1322
- CalFresh County Consultant (916) 645-1896
- Refugee Programs Bureau (916) 654-4356

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

TODD R. BLAND  
Deputy Director  
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

## MBSAC Payment Standards

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

### Region 1 FY 2013-14

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
<b>FY 2013-14 CNI 2.65%</b>					
1	\$591	267	57	147	45
2	\$968	356	64	313	87
3	\$1,200	390	67	400	130
4	\$1,424	409	70	496	172
5	\$1,626	409	70	601	218
6	\$1,828	409	70	695	261
7	\$2,009	409	70	775	306
8	\$2,187	409	70	847	342
9	\$2,372	409	70	931	393
10	\$2,575	409	70	1,005	431
More than 10	Add \$22 for each extra person				

### Region 2 FY 2013-14

Assistance Unit Size	MBSAC	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
<b>FY 2013-14 CNI 2.65%</b>					
1	\$560	256	57	147	45
2	\$920	339	64	313	87
3	\$1,139	371	67	400	130
4	\$1,355	390	70	496	172
5	\$1,547	390	70	601	218
6	\$1,739	390	70	695	261
7	\$1,907	390	70	775	306
8	\$2,082	390	70	847	342
9	\$2,249	390	70	931	393
10	\$2,449	390	70	1,005	431
More than 10	Add \$22 for each extra person				