



CDSS

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

April 30, 2010

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-34-10

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS  
ALL COUNTY WELFARE TO WORK COORDINATORS  
ALL COUNTY CONSORTIA MANAGERS  
ALL COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY AUDITOR CONTROLLERS

SUBJECT: SUBSIDIZED SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS  
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES EMERGENCY  
CONTINGENCY FUND

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTERS (ACL) 09-42 and ACL No. 10-22, COUNTY FISCAL  
LETTER (CFL) 09/10-32, CFL 09/10-03, ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE  
(ACIN I-31-10)

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

The federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and Employment and Training Administration (ETA) have jointly encouraged human services and workforce agencies to collaborate on subsidized employment programs for low-income youth. In a letter signed by ACF Assistant Secretary Carmen R. Nazario and ETA Assistant Secretary Jane Oates, the two federal agencies urge state and local Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) agencies, Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) agencies to work together to create, expand, and maintain subsidized summer employment programs targeted at our nation's youth labor force, whose work opportunities have dwindled in the current economic recession.

Youth employment typically begins to grow in April and peaks in July each year as youth begin looking for and working in summer jobs. However, with the onset of the current economic recession, decreased employment opportunities have led to declining youth employment rates, with the lowest peak month rate on record occurring in July 2009. Subsidized summer employment programs may enable today's youth left unemployed by the economic downturn to gain valuable skills, experience, and training critical to future job stability and advancement.

TANF Emergency Contingency Funds (ECF), as well as WIA and Wagner-Peyser funds can be used to fund programs designed to alleviate unemployment and increase employment opportunities for low-income youth. WIA and Wagner-Peyser funds can be used to offer a wide array of services helping youth gain and retain employment, while TANF ECF can provide subsidized employment

and other TANF services to low-income youth. However, as a reminder, WIA and other federal funds cannot be used to make up the 20 percent of expenditures for subsidized employment programs required of states and local governments to receive the 80 percent reimbursement through TANF ECF.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) agrees that subsidized summer employment programs can provide California's youth labor force valuable skills and experience that lead to unsubsidized employment, job stability, and income growth in the future. CDSS encourages counties and local government to explore the potential benefit that subsidized employment programs offer young workers in their communities.

State law for TANF ECF limits eligibility to the needy family population to families with a minor child living with a parent or adult relative caregiver; and families in which the minor child is temporarily absent for up to 12 months, due to child abuse and neglect, and the parent or parents are engaged in family reunification services. As long as a youth who is 24 years of age or younger is residing with an eligible family and is related to the minor child, he or she may be placed in TANF ECF subsidized employment.

Youth, in a foster care placement with a CalWORKs or needy family are also eligible for TANF ECF subsidized employment. In this situation, the foster care youth does not have to be related to a member of the eligible family. Emancipated youth who are no longer in a foster care placement and who are 24 years old or younger are only eligible if they are residing with a CalWORKs or "needy family" in which the emancipated youth is related to the minor child.

When designing summer youth opportunities, remember that TANF ECF is currently scheduled to end on September 30, 2010. TANF ECF can only be used to pay for actual expenditures that were incurred through September 30, 2010.

For more information on subsidized summer youth employment programs or TANF ECF, please call Geoffrey Miller (916) 654-6091.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

KÄREN DICKERSON, Chief  
Employment and Eligibility Branch