

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



May 25, 2007

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-29-07

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

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

SUBJECT: CalWORKs MAXIMUM FAMILY GRANT (MFG) REQUIREMENT REMINDER

REFERENCE: All County Letter (ACL) 00-78 dated November 30, 2000

The purpose of this notice is to remind counties of the existing MFG regulations and policy when applying the MFG rule to CalWORKs Assistance Units (AUs). Counties must provide the attached CW 2102 which contains a written acknowledgement of receipt of the informing notice at application and at every annual redetermination. This form must be signed and dated by the applicant/recipient each time it is provided. A copy is to be given to the applicant/recipient and the original must be maintained in the case file.

To apply the MFG rule on or after November 1, 2002, the county must do all of the following:

- Have a copy of the signed CW 2102 (or documentation of a refusal to sign) that was provided to the AU at the most recent redetermination at least ten months prior to the birth of the child. If the AU has not been on aid long enough to have had a redetermination ten months prior to the birth of the child, then the signed CW 2102 provided at application, at least 10 months prior to the birth of the child, will apply (ACL 00-78).
- Determine if the AU had a break-in-aid for two consecutive months during the ten months before the birth of the child as provided in MPP Section 44-314.32.
- Determine if the AU meets any of the exceptions to the MFG rule listed in MPP Section 44-314.5.

If there is no signed CW 2102 (or record as described above) that the applicant/recipient was notified of the MFG rule at application or the most recent redetermination at least ten months before the child's birth, whichever is later, the MFG rule does not apply to the AU. Several examples follow to illustrate the application of the MFG rule:

Example 1:

A child was born on November 5, 2006, into a CalWORKs AU that has been on aid since December 2002. The family's most recent redetermination was in December 2005. For the MFG rule to apply, the family's CalWORKs case file must contain a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the CW 2102 from the redetermination in December 2005.

Example 2:

A CalWORKs AU has been on aid since August 2004 and their new child was born on October 2, 2006. The family was redetermined and signed the CW 2102 in July 2005. The family's July 2006 redetermination was completed but the CW 2102 is missing from the case file. The MFG rule applies to the new child because the CalWORKs case file contains a signed CW 2102 from the most recent redetermination (July 2005) that is at least ten months before the child's birth. Although there was a more recent redetermination in July 2006, it did not occur at least 10 months prior to the birth of the child, so the CW 2102 signed in July 2005 would be the applicable CW 2102 in this case situation.

Example 3:

A CalWORKs AU signed the CW 2102 and has been on aid since July 2005, they go off aid March 1, 2006, and are reinstated on April 10, 2006. They are redetermined and their CW 2102 is signed in July 2006. A new child is born August 3, 2006, and the MFG rule applies to the new child because the family had a break-in-aid of less than two consecutive months during the ten months before the birth of the child and there is an applicable CW 2102 in the case that was signed in July 2005.

Forms/Translations/Services

Each county must provide bilingual/interpretive services and written translations to non-English or limited English speaking populations as required by the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act (Government Code Section 7920 et seq.) and by State regulations in Manual of Policies and Procedures Section 21-115.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding the MFG rule, please contact your CalWORKs county consultant for assistance.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By  
Karen Dickerson on 5/24/07

KAREN DICKERSON, Chief  
Employment and Eligibility Branch

c: CWDA  
CSAC

Attachment

# 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 any member of your family got cash aid for the 10 months in a row right before the child's birth.

**This rule applies to any member of your family, including any child who becomes a parent.**

## Cash aid will not go up when:

- You or any adult on the case have gotten cash aid for ten months in a row before the baby is born.
- Your child has gotten cash aid for ten months in a row before he or she has a baby.
- Any of your children got cash aid for ten months in a row before the baby is born, even if you are not getting cash aid for yourself.

## This baby will still be eligible for:

- Other CalWORKs benefits, such as child care when the parent goes to work.
- Medi-Cal.
- Food Stamps.

**Child support payments for the new baby will be paid to your family and will not be counted as income for cash aid.**

## The MFG rule will not apply:

- If your family was off cash aid for at least two months in a row during the 10 months before the birth of the child.
- Once the whole family has been off cash aid for 24 months in a row, or the baby goes to live with someone else.
- If no adult in your family received written notice of the MFG rule at least ten months before the birth of the child.
- When a parent, whose MFG child was born while the parent was a minor, becomes head of his/her own Assistance Unit. Example: Selena gets aid for herself and her 17-year-old daughter, Rose. If Rose has a baby while on aid, the family's grant will not go up if the MFG rule applies. When Rose turns 18 or moves out, she can apply for aid for herself and her baby.
- To a baby born to someone who gets aid for children but not for herself or himself, if the person is not the parent of the children getting aid. Example: if an aunt gets CalWORKs only for her niece and then the aunt has her own baby, the MFG rule will not apply to the aunt's baby.
- If the child was conceived because of rape or incest. You must report the rape or incest no later than three months after the birth of the child to a: medical or mental health professional; or social services agency; or law enforcement agency.  
In the case of incest, you do not need to report if paternity has been established.
- If the child was conceived because of the failure of one of these kinds of birth control:
  - IUD (an intrauterine device), Norplant, Depo-Provera or
  - the sterilization of either parent.

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

- **I have read this notice or have had it read to me, and I understand that I will not get more cash aid for a baby born ten months after my family goes on cash aid. This may include babies born to myself or my child.**
- **I understand that I must explain this rule to any family member of any age who can get pregnant or become a parent, and I understand that the rule applies whether or not I explain it to my minor child, spouse, or the other parent of the child.**

Signature of Caretaker Relative

Date