



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

May 10, 2012

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 12-23

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CalFresh COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS
ALL COUNTY TAX-OFFSET PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY IEVS COORDINATORS AND COLLECTION MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) PROGRAM: STOPPING OVERPAYMENT COLLECTION FROM CERTAIN CURRENT MINORS

REFERENCES: ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) 12-02; MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (MPP) SECTION 44-352.

<u>REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> State Law Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Law or Regulation Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Court Order
<input type="checkbox"/> Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiated by CDSS

The purpose of this letter is to notify County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of an additional change in policy to CalWORKs overpayment (OP) collections from minors. All County Letter (ACL) 12-02 provided initial instructions regarding changes to CalWORKs OP collection policies with an effective date of January 6, 2012. This ACL further extends those instructions to require that CWDs terminate OP collections from another segment of the CalWORKs population. As of January 6, 2012, CWDs may no longer recoup prior OPs from any minor who becomes a member of a new Assistance Unit (AU) when the OP occurred while the minor was a member of the previous AU.

Effective immediately, California Department of Social Services (CDSS) directs CWDs to cease and desist from all current collection actions via grant adjustment or other collection methods and to prospectively forego pursuit of OP repayment from minors who moved from an overpaid AU to a new AU. CWDs may not reduce June 2012 grants to initiate or continue grant adjustments intended to recoup OPs from the population described in this letter.

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Detailed instructions regarding treatment of CalWORKs aid payments previously collected via grant adjustments for the months of February 2012 through May 2012 will be provided under separate cover. This letter is intended to ensure that CWDs immediately stop grant adjustments from occurring beginning with the June 2012 aid payments. In addition, to providing detailed instructions, the CDSS will also amend the applicable regulations and forms to be consistent with this change in policy.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this letter, please contact the CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division