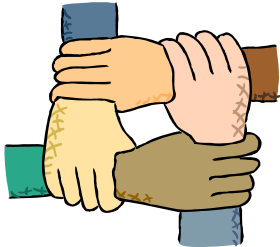


CalWORKs Division Newsletter

MAY 2007

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"



Retroactive Child Support Disregard Payments

This is a reminder that retroactive child support disregard payments reported by a participant are exempt for CalWORKs. In April 2006, some participants did not receive their monthly child support disregard payment. This payment was issued to participants in March 2007. This was due to the transition from the payment being distributed by the Auditor-Controller to the State Disbursement Unit (SDU). The SDU is a new central site in Sacramento responsible for collecting, processing and distributing child support payments.

For more information, please see Call-Out #07-03, dated 2/15/07 and Administrative Directive #4564, dated 4/11/06.

Direct Deposit Payee Changes

Reminder: When making changes to the Case Payee on cases with existing Direct Deposit authorizations, staff must also complete a PA 1675-3, Direct Deposit Cancellation Form, to be submitted the Auditor-Controller. Don't forget to update the payee information and change of issuance method on LEADER. Failure to do so will result in a delay of benefits for the participant. For details, please refer to the LEADER Handbook Section 44-300.

"Be determined... Be courageous... You're only as good as what you think you are, so make the most of your opportunities and give it your best shot. Remember this, tough times don't last... but tough people do!"

- Author Unknown

EBT Expunged Benefit Listing Quarterly Report

Reminder: Cases should be regularly reviewed for expunged benefits when the participant is in the district office. If a case shows expunged benefits, the EW should have the participant complete the EBT 24 and follow the procedures in AD #4604, dated 9/13/07.

Also, the EBT Expunged Benefits report is available on the DPSS Portal the first week of the month during the report month. When printing the report from the DPSS Portal, print the "Over 10" listing **only**. Each expunged benefit amount should be worked by contacting the participant and following the instructions in AD #4605. In addition, the due date for the EBT Expunged Benefit Listing Quarterly Report has been extended to the 25th of the report month.

THAP+14 APPLICATIONS

Effective immediately, no new applications for THAP+14 are to be accepted. Homeless Case Managers (HCMs) are to continue to refer families to the Housing Locator based on the criteria outlined in Administrative Directive #4585, Supp.I, dated April 26, 2007.

Questions & Answers

Q: Who is responsible for updating, processing, and entering the information received at Redetermination on LEADER? Is it the responsibility of the case-carrying EW or the change center EW?

A: It is the case-carrying EW's responsibility to process paperwork received at/during the redetermination process. Further, the case-carrying EW must take immediate action on pending case actions that prevent the QR 7 change center EW from authorizing the QR 7's reported changes, including Redeterminations. Please refer to LEADER Operations Handbook, Section 23-111.42, Responsibilities Case-Carrying Eligibility Worker.

Questions & Answers (Continued)

Q: The mother is a sponsored non-citizen. She **refuses** to provide her sponsor's information (affidavit of support, income, resources). Do we still aid the sponsored LPR child and the USA born children?

A: If the sponsored non-citizen **refuses** to give sponsor information and does not have a reason that would exempt him/her or the child (abuse by sponsor, etc.) the entire case would be denied. This is because the sponsor income and resource information are needed to determine eligibility and CalWORKs benefit amount.

Q: Is there a difference between the participant **being unable** to provide the sponsorship information and **refusing to provide** it?

If the sponsored non-citizen is **unable** to provide the requested information (the sponsor would not give the information to him/her etc.) and the non-citizen has U.S. citizen child(ren) who is/are eligible for CalWORKs, then only the non-citizen applicant is ineligible for assistance. The U.S. citizen child(ren) could be aided if all other eligibility criteria has been met. Please refer to EAS 43-119.23 for more information.

Q: The participant's child was born in Mexico, the participant is a naturalized citizen. Is the child eligible to CalWORKs?

A: Yes, the child is eligible for CalWORKs. A child born outside of the U.S. is considered a U.S. citizen when all of the following requirements are met:

- o At least one parent of the child is a citizen of the U.S. (by birth or naturalization); **and**
- o The child is under the age of 18; **and**
- o The child is residing in the U.S. in the legal and physical custody of the citizen parent and the child entered the U.S. in accordance to a lawful admission for permanent residence; **and**
- o In the case of an adopted child, the child is under the age of 16 and has resided in the legal and physical custody of the citizen parent(s) for at least 2 years.

For more information, refer to the LEADER Handbook, CW Policy, Chapter 42-433 - Eligible Alien Status.

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

— Franklin D. Roosevelt

CalWORKs Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Advocacy Program

To assist with the receipt of new potential SSI application referrals, the CalWORKs SSI Advocacy Program will soon expand its services. SSI Advocates will soon begin accepting telephone and fax referrals from Eligibility Workers (EWs) and GAIN Services Workers (GSWs). At intake, redetermination, or point of contact, EWs and GSWs will refer CalWORKs participants who are aged, blind, or have a disability expected to last for 12 months or more, to the CW SSI Advocacy Program. Look for the release of instructions.

