

# CalWORKs FACT SHEET

## benefits SF

### CalWORKs: California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids

The San Francisco Department of Human Services administers the CalWORKs program which is governed by federal and state regulations and paid for by federal, state and city funds. CalWORKs is a cash assistance program for families with dependent children.

The CalWORKs standards are the same for everyone, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, political beliefs, marital status, sex or disability.

### DEPRIVATION

CalWORKs is for children (newborn through 18 years) and their families who need financial help because of one or more of the following reasons:

- A child has been relinquished for adoption.
- Either parent is deceased.
- Either parent is physically or mentally disabled.
- The primary wage earner parent is unemployed. (Working less than 100 hours per 28 days)
- Either parent is absent from the child's home. (Cooperation with the District Attorney is required)

### INCOME

1) To be eligible for CalWORKs, first the income of the family, after \$90 is subtracted from any gross earnings, must be less than the need standard:

#### Family Size/Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care (MBSAC)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
\$540	\$885	\$1097	\$1302	\$1486	\$1670	\$1835	\$1999	\$2168	\$2353

2) Then, if the family's income is less than the need standard as above, the income of the family, after other deductions are made from certain disability benefits and earnings, must be less than the grant payments below.

There are two grant payment standards for CalWORKs. Generally, families headed by parents who are considered available for employment will receive the lower grant amount. These families are referred to as "Non-exempt." Families headed by parents who receive certain disability benefits, or by non-needy non-parent relatives, are referred to as "Exempt" (meaning exempt from the lower grant amount) and will receive the higher monthly grant.

#### Family Size/Maximum Aid Payment (MAP)

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Non-Exempt MAP	345	561	694	828	941	1057	1162	1265	1367	1469
Exempt MAP	382	627	776	923	1050	1180	1296	1414	1527	1641

## PROPERTY

The limit is \$2000 per family (\$3000 if someone over 59 is part of the CalWORKs family). Includes, but not limited to, cash, savings and checking accounts, securities, stocks, bonds, the value of one motor vehicle in excess of \$4650, the net value of other motor vehicles, and real property other than the family's own home.

### Excluded as property:

- 1) Home owned and occupied by the family, regardless of its value.
- 2) One motor vehicle if the value does not exceed \$4650. If the value exceeds \$4650, the excess amount over \$4650 is included in the property limit.
- 3) Household items and furnishings, such as furniture, major and small appliances, television and musical systems.
- 4) Other personal property such as jewelry, musical instruments, and power tools.
- 5) Personal effects such as clothing, wedding and engagement rings, heirlooms and prosthetic devices.

## RESIDENCE

No durational residence is required. Only an intent to reside and a presence in California is required. Noncitizens must document legal U.S. entry status. The sponsor of a noncitizen who applies for CalWORKs is still responsible for the noncitizen's support. A portion of the sponsor's resources and income is "deemed" available to the noncitizen and is used to determine CalWORKs eligibility, but there may be exceptions to that rule.

## WORK REQUIREMENTS

All family members must work or participate in an activity through the CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work program, except:

- Child under 16.
- Child 16 through 18 years of age who is in school full time.
- Person over 59 years of age.
- Mother or caretaker of a child under 6 months of age.

## AGE AND SCHOOL REGULATIONS

All children ages 6 through 17 must be attending school. 16 and 17 year olds must be in school full-time or participating in the Welfare-to-Work program. 18 year olds must be in high school or vocational-technical school full-time and expect to complete school before age 19.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

All pre-school age children must receive all age-appropriate immunizations.

## PREGNANCY

If a woman is pregnant, she may be eligible to a \$47 pregnancy special need allowance.

## QUARTERLY REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY

A quarterly eligibility and income report (QR7) is required for determination of continued eligibility. The purpose of the quarterly reporting form is to show changes of address, family size, children's school attendance, employment, income, property and expenses.

## MEDI-CAL

Medi-Cal is automatically issued to everyone receiving CalWORKs. Doctor, hospital and dental bills, as well as, medicine, glasses and other medical needs may be paid for within the limitations of the Medi-Cal program.

## SERVICES

CalWORKs recipients automatically qualify for services such as health care, child care, family planning and money management advice.

## FOOD STAMPS

Food Stamps enable low-income families to buy more food. Families receiving CalWORKs may be eligible for Food Stamps.

## WHERE TO APPLY FOR CalWORKs:

San Francisco Department of Human Services  
170 Otis Street - 1st Floor Reception Area  
Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.  
Information Phone Number: 557-5723

## **IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY:**

If you have a disability and need help in applying for aid, let us know. We may be able to arrange for a home visit or other assistance specific to your needs. If you need such special assistance, call Luis Yopez at 557-5893.

If you are already on aid and need such special services, contact your eligibility worker or employment specialist.

## **STATE FAIR HEARING:**

You have the right to a State Fair Hearing if you are not satisfied and believe there are unnecessary delays in processing your application or if you believe that your worker did not understand the facts in determining your eligibility or in determining your grant properly. You may request a State Fair Hearing within 90 days of the San Francisco Department of Human Services action by completing the back of your notice of action and mailing it to:

### **APPEALS UNIT**

San Francisco Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 7988, S600  
San Francisco, California 94120

**IMPORTANT: This handout does not substitute for CalWORKs regulations, which are available for your review.**

This Fact Sheet is current as of June 2010. It is not to be used as a substitute for Federal, State or County regulations. The SF Department of Human Services has copies of current regulations you may review.