



PUBLIC BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

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PUBLIC COUNSEL



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- Public Counsel operates eight legal projects: Children's Rights, Community Development, Consumer Rights & Economic Justice, Homelessness Prevention, Immigrants' Rights, Veterans' Rights, the Audrey Irmas Gender Justice Project, and our impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law.

GOALS FOR THIS PRESENTATION

- Overview of public benefits and resources in Los Angeles County
- Tips for spotting issues related to public benefits
- Note that the DPSS (threshold languages) and Social Security Administration (Spanish) websites have buttons at the top of each page to translate the content



PUBLIC BENEFITS 101

WHAT TO CONSIDER

Questions to ask yourself as you hear this presentation:

- ❑ Have you tried to apply for any benefits and been denied?
- ❑ Were you receiving benefits that were cut off?
- ❑ Have your benefits been reduced?
- ❑ Have you received any letters from the Social Security Administration (SSA), the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), or the Employment Development Department (EDD)?
- ❑ Are there any pending deadlines relating to your benefits?
- ❑ Do you think you might be eligible for any benefits mentioned in this presentation that you're not already receiving?

CASH AID

Cash Aid: Administered by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS).

- Applications and benefits management are now at <https://benefitscal.com/> (no app available). If you previously had a YBN account, you will have to create a new BenefitsCal account.
- If your cash benefits were stolen electronically, file the Report of Electronic Theft of Benefits form with DPSS: <https://www.ebtproject.ca.gov/Clients/ebt2259.html> within 90 days of the theft. You do not have to file a police report.
- You can find your local office at <https://benefitscal.com/Help/find-an-office/HCCOL?lang=en>

GENERAL RELIEF

General Relief: for adults without minor children

- ❑ Very strict income and resource rules
- ❑ Amount has been \$221.00 per month for decades
- ❑ No more QR7 required. DPSS will get information from your SAR-7. Form at <https://tinyurl.com/y7n6jmv8>
- ❑ Limited rental assistance is available: <https://dps.lacounty.gov/en/cash/gr/housing.html>
- ❑ If the applicant was previously receiving CalWORKs and timed out, they will not be eligible for GR until the youngest child turns 18, even if they no longer live with the child(ren)
- ❑ For more information, call 866-613-3777 or visit <https://dps.lacounty.gov/en/cash/gr.html>

Issue Spotting

- ❑ If you are receiving less than \$221.00, there is probably an overpayment, which should be investigated.
- ❑ If you have been terminated in the last few months, it may be possible to reinstate rather than reapply
- ❑ If you are disabled but required to participate in START (previously GROW)

CaWORKs

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids: California's TANF program, cash aid for income-eligible adults with minor children, minor children themselves, and pregnant people, *regardless of pregnancy length*

- Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) requirement (Welfare to Work)
 - Should be offered a learning disability screening
 - Exemption possible for good cause, including disability, age 60+, certain parents/caregivers
 - WtW 24 month time clock within the 48 month time limit for CW
 - Special allowances for domestic violence victims
- CalWORKs recipients can be children only, *EVEN IF THE PARENTS ARE UNDOCUMENTED*, as long as the children meet immigration requirements
 - Note: DPSS does not report to ICE
- Calculations for the amount received are complicated. Ask DPSS for a review if you think there is a mistake. Be ready to provide your financial records.
- For more information, call 866-613-3777 or visit <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/cash/calworks.html>

ADDITIONAL CW PROGRAMS

- Homeless Assistance Programs to assist with move-in costs, back rent due, and temporary housing payments (paid directly to the landlord). See <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/cash/calworks/homeless.html> for more information.
- Monthly \$30 diaper allowance for children under 36 months
- Transportation for welfare-to-work activities
- Diversion payment for eligible *CW applicants* to avoid long-term aid for use with eviction prevention, car repair, work expenses, and child care
- Special Needs Payments for recurring or non-recurring needs, including therapeutic diets, laundry, and household emergencies

CaWORKs PROGRAMS cont...

- Home Visiting Program for CW recipients who are pregnant or parenting a child age two or younger
 - ▣ Includes connection to resources for pregnancy, parent coaching, stipend for health and safety items, and connection to housing, job opportunities, mental health, educational training
 - ▣ For more information, see <https://dps.lacounty.gov/en/jobs/gain/sss/HVP.html>
- Family Stabilization Program
 - ▣ Case management, domestic violence services, substance abuse services, connection with reunification services
 - ▣ For more information, see <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/calworks-grow/calworks-family-stabilization/>

PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE

□ CalWORKs Child Care Vouchers

- ▣ Stage 1: for parents or guardians receiving CW cash assistance or formerly received cash assistance or a diversion payment (should get same-day approval)
- ▣ Stage 2: entitlement for qualifying parents or guardians who received CW cash assistance in the last 24 months (automatically transitioned from stage 1)
- ▣ Stage 3: subject to sufficient funding until child turns 13
- ▣ Fee/copayment: based on family size, family income, and full or part-time care
- ▣ For more information, see <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/jobs/childcare.html>. If you have problems, call the child care hotline at 877-244-5399.

PRESCHOOL AND TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

- California State Preschool
 - Ages 3-5
 - Must have an Alternative Payment (AP) voucher for full day preschool
 - No “need” requirements for part-day program
 - Waiting list priority goes to at-risk children, lowest income, children with disabilities, and children whose primary language is a language other than English
 - Visit <https://www.ccrcca.org/headstart/programs/california-state-preschool-program-ages-3-5/> for more information
 - Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for four year old children, only on school campuses. Programs vary by district.

EDUCATION, continued...

- Literacy programs, and computer training programs are available to children and parents. Call the Los Angeles County Office of Education at 562-922-6111 for more information.
- Beyond the Bell afterschool program in the Los Angeles Unified School District provides supervised activities after school hours for 1st – 6th graders. For more information, call 213-745-1900 or visit www.btb.lausd.org. For other areas, contact your local school district.
- Per the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, any student who lacks a fixed, adequate, and regular nighttime residence is homeless. *This includes doubled-up households.*
- Unhoused students' education rights:
 - Do not need a permanent address to enroll
 - May enroll at the public school of their choice
 - Cannot be denied enrollment due to lack of documentation, including birth certificate, immunization records, proof of residence
 - Participation in school meals, special education, Title I services, any other programs for which otherwise eligible
 - If other students in the school are provided with transportation, the unhoused student must also be offered that service
 - Cannot be isolated from other students
 - For more information, visit <https://www.lacoe.edu/services/student-support/engagement/homelessness>

CaKIDS ACCOUNTS

- California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program – seed money for college
- California newborns born on July 1, 2022 or later, regardless of income or immigration status
- Low-income public school students
 - Academic year 2021-2022 1st – 12th graders
 - Academic year 2022 – 2023 and later 1st graders
- For more information, call 888-445-2377 or visit www.calkids.org

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN

- WIC is a nutrition program for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or just had a baby, as well as children under age five
- If you receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, or Medi-Cal, you are eligible. Families with low to moderate income could also be eligible. Immigration status does not matter.
- Services include money to buy healthy foods and formula, information about health and nutrition, and breastfeeding support
- Vouchers for use at certain farmers markets
- Call 888-942-9675 or visit <https://myfamily.wic.ca.gov/Home/WICOfficeGrocer#wicLocations> for more information

FOOD ASSISTANCE

- **CalFresh:** assists individuals and families with non-cash funds to help pay for groceries.
 - Emergency CalFresh is available to eligible applicants who are unhoused (if no ineligible members in the household).
 - Hot meals are available from participating vendors if the recipient (and household) are qualified for the California Restaurant Meals Program.
 - The CalFresh Elderly Simplified Application is available for people who are disabled, age 60+, not getting income from work, and if there is more than one person in the household, everyone buys and prepares food together. For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/46nz7zea>.
 - For more information, call 866-613-3777 or visit <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/food/calfresh.html> and <https://calfresh.guide/>
- For food pantry assistance, see <https://www.lafoodbank.org/find-food/pantry-locator/>.

Issue Spotting

- Terminations, overissuances
- Not set up for hot meals if unhoused or disabled
- Applicant is unhoused and it takes longer than three days to receive benefits after applying

DISABILITY BENEFITS

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): a needs-based program (benefit of last resort) for people who are age 65+, blind, or disabled, and have little or no income.

- Resource and income limits are very strict
 - A single individual must have less than \$2000 in resources, and less than \$3000 for a couple
 - A CalABLE account *could* protect some income from SSI rules. The account holder must have been disabled before age 26. As of January 1, 2026, the age will increase to 46. See <https://calable.ca.gov/> for more information.
 - It is possible to work while receiving SSI, but your benefits will be reduced. For more information, see <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-work-ussi.htm>.
- Extremely difficult to meet disability criteria
 - Only 36% of initial SSI applications approved, less than half that for people experiencing homelessness
 - To find your assigned Social Security Administration office, use this tool: <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>
 - Visit <https://tinyurl.com/bddhj6x3> for more information

Issue Spotting

- Terminations, appeals
- A single adult receiving less than the standard \$1182.94 monthly
- A single adult without access to cooking facilities receiving less than \$1311.81 monthly
- Anyone receiving SSI who is not receiving CalFresh (prior to 2019 couldn't receive both)

DISABILITY BENEFITS, continued...

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI): disability benefits paid to a disabled person or their family members. Amount is based on work credits and other criteria.

- Disability rules are the same for SSI and SSDI
- Income and resource limits are more lenient
- Immigrants with the following statuses AND enough recent work credits could qualify:
 - ▣ Granted LPR (green card), TPS (Temporary Protected Status), VAWA (Violence Against Women Act), U (Victim of Crime), T (Victim of Trafficking), Refugee, Asylum, DACA, Withholding of Removal, Cuban or Haitian Entrant. Again, this is for SSDI, not SSI.
- Visit <https://www.ssa.gov/disability> for more information
- It is possible to work while receiving SSDI, as long as you make under the substantial gainful activity level (**GROSS** \$1550 for 2024, unless blind, \$2590). Contact SSA regarding Ticket to Work, Trial Work Period, Extended Period of Eligibility, and Expedited Reinstatement. <https://choosework.ssa.gov/about/work-incentives>
 - ▣ If you receive ANY SSI in addition to SSDI, the SSI rules supersede SSDI rules
 - ▣ Seek advice on how this income could affect your other public benefits
- Anyone who is disabled and wants to become more self-supporting could qualify for Department of Rehabilitation services, including training, tools, and money for tuition/books. Call 916-324-1313, or visit <https://www.dor.ca.gov/> for more information.

Issue Spotting

- Since SSDI amounts are calculated on an individual basis, it is difficult to easily determine if there are underpayments or overpayments
- If your SSDI amount is less than the standard SSI amount of \$1182.94, you may be eligible for SSI

DISABILITY BENEFITS, continued...

State Disability Insurance (SDI): a program administered by the Employment Development Department (EDD) for workers who are *temporarily* disabled by a *non-work-related* illness/injury. Work-related injuries should be covered by Workers' Compensation.

- ❑ Must have had SDI deductions withheld from paycheck during the base period (must meet amount and date criteria)
- ❑ Workers with reduced hours due to disability could qualify
- ❑ Claim must be filed within 49 days of onset of disability, unless you can argue good cause for late filing
- ❑ A potentially better benefit than Unemployment Insurance benefits due to time period and tax purposes
- ❑ Available to undocumented workers who paid into SDI, even without a SSN (must do a paper application)
- ❑ You will have to create an online EDD account before filing a claim. See https://edd.ca.gov/sdi_online for more information.
- ❑ To get through to a live person at EDD, call 800-480-3287 and dial 1,2,4

Issue Spotting

- ❑ If you recently worked and are ill/injured, you could be eligible for SDI
- ❑ Overpayments/Denials/Terminations

HEALTHCARE

Medi-Cal: California's Medicaid program, administered by DPSS

- ❑ Many programs available, based on income, medical condition, etc.
- ❑ Full-scope Medi-Cal for ALL who are otherwise eligible, *regardless of immigration status*
- ❑ Includes Denti-Cal
- ❑ Includes transportation to medical, mental health, dental, and substance use disorder treatment, as well as pharmacies
- ❑ Home and Community-Based Services waivers can help recipients avoid going into a nursing facility/hospital by providing care through home health agencies, unlicensed caregivers, and certified HCBS providers. Recipients can include people with developmental disabilities. For more information, see <https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/the-home-and-community-based-alternatives-hcb-alternatives-waiver>.
- ❑ For more information on Medi-Cal, visit <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/health.html>
- ❑ If you have a share of cost, inquire at DPSS about the 250% Working Disabled Program (definition of work is extremely generous)

HEALTHCARE, continued...

Medicare: a federal program for individuals over age 65, and SSDI recipients who have been disabled for more than 24 months.

- ▣ Part A: hospital, skilled nursing, and hospice care
- ▣ Part B: outpatient care
- ▣ Part D: outpatient drug coverage
- ▣ Call 800-633-4227 or visit <https://www.medicare.gov/> for more information
- ▣ For any issues, call the Center for Healthcare Rights at 800-824-0780 or visit <https://healthcarerights.org/>

HEALTHCARE continued...

□ **Medi-Cal/Medi-Care (Medi-Medi)**

- Dual Special Needs Plans (DSNPs) can allow for specialized care and wraparound services

- For example, see <https://medicare.lacare.org/>

- Beware of DSNP look-alikes (don't provide as many services, and cost money)

- If you have issues with your Medi-Medi benefits, call the Health Insurance Advocacy Program at (800) 434-0222

□ **Issue Spotting**

- If you are paying Medicare premiums out of your SSDI benefits, and you receive Medi-Cal, there are programs to assist with this. Inquire at DPSS.

- If you have Medi-Cal and Medicare, you do not need to buy a supplemental Medicare plan

- ANY undocumented individual not receiving full-scope MC

- Terminations (have increased dramatically due to end of public health emergency)

- Denial of services

- Medical debt (Medi-Cal can pay for medical expenses up to 90 days prior to the start of your coverage)

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

IHSS (a Medi-Cal Program): IHSS workers can assist low-income elderly and/or disabled people with tasks needed to help them stay in their homes. Tasks can include cooking, cleaning, transportation to doctor appointments, paramedical care, feeding, bathing, etc. Providers can be family members.

- SSI and CAPI recipients automatically eligible (but must still apply and submit SOC 873 Healthcare Certification form)
- SSDI recipients may have a Share of Cost, depending on amount of SSDI
- For more information call the IHSS Helpline 888-822-9622 or visit <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/senior-and-disabled/ihss.html> and <https://bettzedek.org/resources/ihss-companion-guide-english-2017-2/> (also available in Spanish)
- **Long Term Care:** if a doctor has recommended 24 hour nursing care, see <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/health/ltc.html> for resources.

Issue Spotting

- Anyone who is receiving SSI and/or SSDI and is not getting IHSS (even unhoused people should qualify for some services)
- Anyone who is receiving IHSS but believes they should be getting more hours can appeal the decision and ask for an in-person reassessment.

PAID FAMILY LEAVE

- PFL is available to workers who need to take time off to:
 - Bond with a new child
 - Care for a seriously ill family member
 - Participate in a qualifying event because of a family member's military deployment
- Payments for up to eight weeks
- Amount based on earnings five to 18 months prior to application, 60% to 70% of weekly wages
- For more information, see <https://edd.ca.gov/en/disability/paid-family-leave/>

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Social Security Retirement: a federal retirement program based on work credits.

- Amount paid is based on age and work credits
- Benefits could also be available for family members of retirement recipients

- **Pension Plans:** available from some private and government employers

Issue Spotting

- You can use SSA's online tool to view potential benefits (does not include SSI): <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculators/>
- Contact SSA for the most accurate review

SURVIVOR AND SPOUSAL BENEFITS

Title II Auxiliary Benefits

- ❑ SSA has various programs to assist spouses and *ex-spouses* (ten-year legal marriage) and dependents of disabled, deceased, or retired workers.
- ❑ Family benefits: <https://www.ssa.gov/family>
- ❑ Survivor benefits: <https://www.ssa.gov/survivor>

TAX CREDITS

- Tax credits are benefits you can get only if you submit state and federal tax forms
 - ▣ Should file even if your income is so low you are not required to pay taxes
- California Earned Income Credit (CalEITC)
 - ▣ For a working individual or family earning up to \$30,950 per year (2023)
 - ▣ Can file for retroactive credits for the last four years
- Earned Income Tax Credit – federal tax credit for low-income workers
 - ▣ Does not count as income for CalFresh or CalWORKs if you spend it in the month received or the month after
 - ▣ Can file for retroactive credits for the past three years
 - ▣ Call EITC hotline at 800-601-5552 for more information

TAX CREDITS, continued...

- ❑ Federal Child Tax Credit – has income limits
- ❑ State and Federal Dependent Care Tax Credit – has income limits
- ❑ Young Child Tax Credit for families with at least one child under age six who are also eligible for CalEITC
- ❑ Renter's Tax Credit (a deduction, not a credit)
- ❑ Speak to a tax professional for more information.
See <https://www.freetaxprepla.org/> for assistance.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Unemployment Insurance (UI): a state program administered by the EDD for people who have lost their jobs or had their *hours reduced*, through no fault of their own

- ❑ Must have paid enough into UI during the base period
- ❑ Must be able and ready to work
- ❑ For more information, see https://edd.ca.gov/en/unemployment/ui_online/
- ❑ To get through to a live person at EDD, call 800-300-5616 and dial 1,2,4

Issue Spotting

- ❑ Terminations/appeals/overpayments

IMMIGRANTS AND BENEFITS

- **Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI):** state program administered by DPSS that provides cash assistance for aged, blind, disabled non-citizens
 - Must meet financial, disability, and immigration criteria as below, and not be eligible for SSI
 - Disability criteria are the same as SSI/SSDI
- **Other county benefits:** if someone has a *PENDING* application for or granted U, T, VAWA, asylum, LPR status, or have been *GRANTED* withholding of removal, Cuban or Haitian entrant, or refugee, status, *they are not undocumented* and could be eligible for various DPSS benefits, including CalFresh, General Relief, Refugee Cash Assistance or the Trafficking Crime Victim Assistance Program
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (“Dreamer”) status may be eligible for CAPI.
- Visit DPSS Metro North regarding the above benefits:
<https://locator.lacounty.gov/lac/Location/3176445/metro-north---38>
- **CalFresh and CalWORKs:** *U.S. citizen children of undocumented people are eligible* for CalWORKs and CalFresh
- **SSI:** some immigrants could qualify, including LPRs who were legally present on August 22, 1996
- See previous pages for immigrants and SSDI and SDI benefits

PUBLIC CHARGE

- Public charge: a person who is primarily dependent on the government for support, either by receiving cash assistance or being institutionalized for long-term care paid for by the government
 - Affects family-based immigrants applying for green cards (LPR status), or entry into the United States
 - Many categories of immigrants are exempt from public charge, including asylees, refugees, U or T applicants and holders, VAWA self-petitioners, and people seeking or granted Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)
 - No public charge test for applicants for U.S. citizenship, green card renewal, asylum, DACA, or Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Evaluation of public charge includes a review of the totality of the applicant's circumstances
- This information is subject to change. See <https://pifcoalition.org/publiccharge2022> for more information, and contact an immigration attorney (**NOT A NOTARIO**) to discuss your situation: <https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Free-Legal-Information/For-Immigrants/Immigration-Legal-Services-Providers>

PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

- ❑ Emergency financial assistance for rent, utilities, food, and transportation
- ❑ Ambulatory Outpatient Medical Services
- ❑ Nutrition Support Services
- ❑ Oral Health Services
- ❑ Home-Based Case Management
- ❑ Benefits Specialty Services
- ❑ Mental Health Services
- ❑ Substance Abuse Disorder Transitional Housing
- ❑ Transitional Residential Care Facility
- ❑ For details on the above topics, go to <https://www.lacounty.hiv/outreach-education/health-education-library/> and load all to see the info sheets

RESOURCES FOR SENIORS



- Many services are available, including transportation, mental health services, home repairs, meals, cooling centers, activities, and Adult Protective Services
- In the city of Los Angeles, call the Department of Aging at 213-473-3231 or visit <https://lacity.gov/residents/community-assistance/senior-services>
- In the county of Los Angeles, call the Aging and Disabilities Department at 800-510-2020 or visit <https://ad.lacounty.gov/services/>

TRANSPORTATION

- ❑ Reduced fare TAP card for Metro buses and trains:
<https://www.metro.net/riding/fares/disability/>
- ❑ Free Metro bus and train rides for students grades K-12: <https://www.metro.net/riding/fares/gopass/>
- ❑ Low income fare for Metro buses and trains:
<https://www.metro.net/riding/fares/life/>
- ❑ Access shared ride service for functionally disabled people (not free):
https://accessla.org/riding_access/overview.html
- ❑ CityRide DASH, dial-a-ride, and permitted taxis for people age 65+, and people with disabilities:
https://accessla.org/riding_access/overview.html

UTILITIES

- Electric
 - ▣ Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
 - Senior Citizen (62+)/Disability Lifeline Rate: 213-978-3050 or <https://www.ladwp.com/residential-services/assistance-programs/senior-citizen-disability-lifeline-rate>
 - EZ-Save for income-qualified customers: 800-342-5397 or <https://www.ladwp.com/residential-services/assistance-programs/ez-save-program>
 - ▣ Southern California Edison CARE and FERA discount programs: 800-798-5723 or <https://www.sce.com/residential/assistance/fera-care>
- SoCalGas assistance programs for discounts, one-time bill assistance, energy efficient home upgrades, past due bill forgiveness: 877-238-0092 or <https://www.socalgas.com/billing-payment/assistance-programs>
- Lifeline phone service (cell or landline): 866-272-0349 or <https://www.californialifeline.com/en> Low-cost internet plans: 833-938-3298 or <https://www.internetforallnow.org/offers/low-cost-plans>

UTILITIES, continued...

- Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):
 - ▣ One time assistance with an energy bill, weatherization services, and energy crisis intervention service
 - ▣ Call or visit
<https://www.csd.ca.gov/Pages/LIHEAPProgram.aspx#:~:text=The%20Home%20Energy%20Assistance%20Program,are%20in%20a%20crisis%20situation>



APPEALS AND ACTION ITEMS

APPEALS: DPSS

NOTE: This information applies to the following programs administered by DPSS: General Relief, CalFresh, In-Home Supportive Services, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, and foster care.

- There is a 90-day deadline to appeal any decision made by the county. HOWEVER, you can argue good cause for late appeal after that if you can show there was a good reason, such as illness, change of address, etc.
- Appeal requests go to the state, California Department of Social Services (CDSS), not Los Angeles County (DPSS)
- A hearing will be scheduled with an administrative law judge, most likely over the phone.
- Appeals can be made using the form included with the denial notice, over the phone, or online at <https://acms.dss.ca.gov/acms/page.request.do?page=public.intakeForm>

However, CAPI appeals must be made within 60 days, plus five days for mailing.

- This is because CAPI uses Social Security Administration (SSA) rules.

DPSS NOTICE OF ACTION

What to Look For

- Dates
- Words such as:
 - ▣ "Appeal"
 - ▣ "You have until,"
 - ▣ "Termination"
 - ▣ "Overissuance"
 - ▣ "Overpayment"
 - ▣ "Sanction"
 - ▣ "If you don't"

LOS ANGELES
038 Metro North Office
2901 WILSHIRE BLVD
LOS ANGELES, CA 90057-3401

NOTICE OF ACTION TERMINATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Date: 09/30/2021
Case Name: [REDACTED]
Case Number: B21ZF65
Worker Name: Customer Service
Worker ID: 190P38AE00
Worker Phone Number: (866) 613-3777
Customer ID: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If you have any questions, ask your worker.

STATE HEARING: If you think this action is wrong, you can ask for a hearing. The back of this page tells you how. Your benefits may not be changed if you ask for a hearing before this action takes place.

As of 09/30/2021, the County is stopping your:

- Cash Aid Diaper Assistance Payments
 CalFresh

Here's why:

As of the 11th of this month, the County has not received your semi-annual report (SAR 7) due this month.

To continue to get cash and/or CalFresh benefits you must return a complete SAR 7.

A SAR 7 is complete when you have answered all of the questions and have attached required proof.

The County must get your complete report no later than the first working day of next month.

If your benefits are discontinued you fail to turn in a complete SAR 7, you will not receive Transitional CalFresh benefits. If you have any questions about Transitional CalFresh, please contact your county office.

The information you give us may change or stop your cash aid and/or CalFresh benefits.

If you turn in a complete SAR 7 anytime next month that shows you are eligible to cash aid and/or CalFresh, your benefits will start from the date you turn in the form.

Medi-Cal: This notice DOES NOT change or stop Medi-Cal Benefits. If there is a change in your Medi-Cal benefits, you will get another notice.

Keep using your plastic Benefits Identification Card(s).

You and your family may still continue to get Medi-Cal if your cash aid stops and:

- You have earnings from a job, a business you started or if you received a pay raise.
- You have started to receive or had an increase in child/spousal support payments.

If you need help completing the SAR 7, the County will help you. Please contact the County and ask for help.

Toll free (866) 613-3777

Rules: These rules apply:

CW: MPP Sections 45-105.1, 45-181.22

CalFresh: MPP Sections 63-103(c)(1), 63-508.6

RCA, TCVAP and ECA: MPP Sections 70-105.1, 69-206 and 69-301

WYW: MPP Section 42-711.5, 42-712.1, 42-713.2, 42-717.4 and ACL 16-38

NA 960X SAR (913) STOP AID, REPORT NOT RECEIVED



B21ZF650000702141214040



B21ZF65000002022419259040

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DPSS: AID PAID PENDING APPEAL

- While a decision is pending appeal, the benefit in question should continue being paid *as long as the person is still eligible for the benefit*
- If the appeal is based on welfare-to-work requirements, then the person is exempt from work requirements while the appeal is pending
- **NOTE:** if an appeal was filed late, then a decision on good cause will be made separately from the appeal decision

APPEALS: SSA

- ❑ SSA's standard appeal deadline is 60 days *FROM THE DATE ON THE LETTER*, plus five days for mailing
- ❑ Appeals can be filed using SSA forms mailed or faxed to the assigned SSA office, in person at the local SSA office, or online in some circumstances at www.ssa.gov
- ❑ If an appeal is filed late, then good cause must be argued, and that decision is made before the appeal is considered

STATUTORY BENEFIT CONTINUATION

- If someone has been receiving SSI/SSDI/Medicare and is terminated due to being found no longer disabled, then they can appeal within **TEN** days (plus five for mailing) to continue their benefits if in the Reconsideration or ALJ hearing stages
- This process requires different forms, including one stating that if the claimant loses the appeal, they may have to pay back those benefits to SSA

SSA NOTICE

Social Security Administration
Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance
Important Information

Western Program Service Center
P.O. Box 2000
Richmond, California 94802-1791
Date: October 28, 2021

000121 00001121 1 SP 0.530 1021M1KST571 TS

We are writing to you about a change in your payment amount. The chart below shows how we will withhold overpaid Social Security benefits paid to you.

Month(s)	Amount you will receive	Amount withheld	Balance you owe
10/21	\$690.00	\$13.00	\$483.96

If you pay Medicare premiums or health plan premiums, they have been deducted from the amount shown under the heading "Amount you will receive."

What We Will Pay And When

You will receive \$690.00 for October 2021 in November 2021.

After that, you will receive \$690.00 on or about the third of each month.

You will receive your full regular monthly payment beginning February 2025.

Suspect Social Security Fraud?

Please visit <http://oig.ssa.gov/r> or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 (TTY 1-866-501-2101).

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See Next Page

What to Look For

- Dates
- Words such as:
 - "Decision"
 - "Cessation"
 - "Payment stub"
 - "Appeal"
 - "You have 60 days,"
 - "Termination"
 - "If we don't hear from you"
 - "Withhold"
 - "Overpayment"

SSA: LEVELS OF APPEALS

Request for Reconsideration (case review)

Request for Hearing By Administrative Law Judge (in person or videoconference)

Appeals Council Request for Review (case review)

Federal District Court

APPEALS: EDD

Two Levels of Appeals

- ALJ hearing (usually via telephone)
- Appeals Board review

- The SDI and UIB appeal period is 30 days.

- Appeals must be filed in writing. Keep track of your benefit activity at www.edd.ca.gov.

FINAL COMMENTS ON APPEALS

- ❑ These are complicated proceedings and the best chance of success is to have an advocate/attorney assist with appeal language and the hearing itself.
- ❑ Wait times for hearings could be months (CDSS) or years (SSA).
- ❑ **NOTE:** Local legal service organizations have a system set up with DPSS, making it possible for issues to be resolved without a hearing. Contact the following agencies:
 1. Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles: 800-399-4529, <https://lafla.org/get-help/>
 2. Public Counsel: 213-385-2977, <https://publiccounsel.org/get-help/services/>
 3. Neighborhood Legal Services: 800-433-6251, <https://nls-la.org/services/>



Thank you!

**For more information and questions, please
visit www.publiccounsel.org.**