

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) (HSA)  
CalWORKs Program Guide**

**Pregnancy Based Assistance Unit**

**Number**

**41-500.F**

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**Revision Date:**

March 1, 2022

**Background:**

An Assistance Unit (AU) with a pregnant person and no other eligible child is referred to as a “Pregnant Person Only” (PPO) case. A PPO may be eligible to receive CalWORKs and Pregnancy Special Need (PSN) payments, any time after medical verification of pregnancy is provided, depending on the trimester of the pregnancy.

**Purpose:**

To define the requirements to establishing a PPO AU. The purpose of this material revision is to incorporate changes concerning pregnancy verification requirements.

**Policy:**

**AU of One - PPO Applicant**

An AU of one can be established when a PPO meets all the following conditions:

- Medical verification of the pregnancy has been provided
  - If unable to provide medical verification of pregnancy, the PPO will be allowed to submit a sworn statement, signed under penalty of perjury, to verify the pregnancy for aid and allow the pregnancy special need (PSN) payment (CPG 44-200.C)
  - The sworn statement must include the PPO’s name, date of application, and the expected date of delivery as eligibility for aid begins upon the second trimester of pregnancy
  - If unable to provide a sworn statement, a completed Statement of Facts will be accepted, ensuring the conditions under which the PPO is eligible are documented in case comments
  - Medical verification of pregnancy must be submitted within 30 business days following submittal of the sworn statement for benefits to continue
  - Upon the expiration of the 30-day period, aid must continue if the PPO presents evidence of good-faith efforts to obtain and submit the medical verification
  - If the medical verification is not submitted within 30 business days and there is no evidence of good faith efforts to comply, aid will be discontinued at the end of the month of the 30-day period with timely and adequate notice
  - Should benefits continue beyond the end of the month of the 30-day period, an overpayment will be established for any subsequent aided months the PPO failed to comply
  - Should circumstances preclude the PPO from obtaining the necessary documentation on their own, staff will assist the PPO, when it has been determined the PPO has made every attempt necessary to obtain the documentation, as outlined under CPG 22-00.B
- The pregnant person (and unborn child, if when born would be living with the PPO) would be eligible for CalWORKs
- If the pregnant person is 19 years of age or older, and has reached the second trimester of pregnancy; or at any trimester if the person is under the age of 19 (refer to the Eligibility for PPO Teen Applicant section below for additional information)
- The pregnant person cannot be included in another AU  
Example, a pregnant 17-year-old, living with their parents who are receiving CalWORKs for other children, is an eligible child on the parents’ case, therefore, the 17-year-old cannot be aided in an AU of one.

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Second Trimester of Pregnancy

For purposes of this section, the term “second trimester of pregnancy” is defined as the beginning of the six-month period immediately prior to the month of the anticipated birth. For example, if the birth is anticipated in July, the second trimester would begin in January.

Eligibility for PPO Teen Applicant

A PPO who is 18 years of age or younger may qualify for CalWORKs upon verification of their pregnancy, regardless of whether they are eligible for the Cal-Learn program.

Once a pregnant teen is aided, they remain eligible based on the pregnancy until they become ineligible or the pregnancy ends. This is true even if the pregnant teen reaches their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to their second trimester.

**Note:** Cal-Learn program eligibility will be evaluated and a referral made if appropriate. Refer to CPG 40-200.B, CPG 15-000.C and CPG 15-000.D

Pregnancy Special Need (PSN)

In addition to the basic grant for the PPO meeting the criteria above, a PSN (CPG 44-200.C) payment can be authorized when any of the following situations apply:

- When a pregnant person 19 years or older has reached the second trimester of pregnancy
- Duration of the pregnancy of a teen 18 years of age or younger
- Duration of the pregnancy of an AU of one, for a pregnant person not yet in their second trimester, who is eligible for CalWORKs cash aid due to a Supplemental Security Income/State Supplement Program child living in the home

Unaided Second Parent

When an unaided second parent of an unborn child is living in the home with a pregnant person who is an AU of one without an eligible child, the second parent is excluded by law. The second parent cannot be in the AU until the child is born.

**Note:** When the second parent of the unborn is living in the home at application, the application based on pregnancy is considered an application for the “family” (filing unit) that includes the pregnant person, the unborn, and the unborn’s second parent.

Adding the Newborn and the Second Parent of the Newborn to the AU

Upon notification of the birth of the child, eligibility for the newborn and second parent, if applicable, must be established prior to adding the newborn and the second parent to the AU. Refer to the following sections under CPG 44-270.H for additional information:

- Newborns
- Adding the Newborn and the Second Parent to the PPO Case

**Procedure:**

None

**Program Impacts:**

None

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**References:**

- EAS 44-211.6, 82-836
- ACLs No. 14-04, 15-38, 21-134
- ACINs No. I-03-20, I-16-20

**Sunset Date:**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by March 31, 2025.

**Approval for Release:**

*AW, 3-21-22*

Rick Wanne, Director  
Self-Sufficiency Services