

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHS)
CalWORKs Special Notice

CalWORKs COLA Increase to MBSAC and IIK Levels – July 2021

Number

21-05

Page

1 of 2

Effective Date:

July 1, 2021

Background:

CalWORKs Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care (MBSAC) and Income In-Kind (IIK) levels are updated annually due to Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).

Purpose:

This Special Notice provides information and instructions for eligibility staff regarding the MBSAC and IIK increase.

Policy:

Fiscal Year 2021-22 COLA increases the MBSAC and IIK levels by 2.11%, effective July 1, 2021.

Procedure:

Applicants

Use the updated MBSAC levels to determine financial eligibility for families who apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2021. Take immediate action to review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2021, if the sole reason for denial was failure to pass the CalWORKs applicant test due to the previous MBSAC or IIK amounts used.

If the Assistance Unit is not financially eligible for the application month of June 2021, evaluate eligibility beginning July 2021, using reasonably anticipated income and the updated MBSAC and IIK levels. Refer to CPG 44-100.K.

Recipients

The COLA change is a county-initiated mid-period action for CalWORKs recipients. The updated IIK amounts are to be used prospectively with timely and adequate notice.

Impacts:

Automation

CalWIN will be updated in the near future to apply the increased MBSAC and IIK levels beginning July 2021. Additional information and a case exception list will be issued to staff when available.

Other Programs Affected

The updated MBSAC and IIK levels also apply to:

- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Entrant Cash Assistance
- Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program

The increase of the CalWORKs IIK does not impact General Relief.

Scratch Budget/Assistance Chart

The CalWORKs-CalFresh Scratch Budget and CalWORKs Assistance Standards Chart have been updated with the increased MBSAC and IIK levels and are available for staff in Eligibility Essentials.

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
CalWORKs Special Notice

CalWORKs COLA Increase to MBSAC and IIK Levels – July 2021

Number
21-05

Page
2 of 2

References:

WIC 11450, 11452, 11453
ACL No. 21-55

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by July 31, 2022.

Approval for Release:

 for:

Rick Wanne, Director
Self-Sufficiency Services