

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)  
Eligibility Program Guide Special Notice**

<b>Implementation of the New Statewide Minimum Wage</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Page</b>
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**Effective Date:**

January 1, 2021

**Background:**

Employees in California are required to be paid the minimum wage as required by state law, with certain exemptions. The current California minimum wage is \$13.00 per hour.

**Purpose:**

To inform eligibility staff of the increase in the statewide minimum wage and its impact on CalWORKs, CalFresh, General Relief (GR) Work Project assignment and credit, Employment Services (ES), and CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T).

**Policy:**

Effective January 1, 2021, the California minimum wage will increase to \$14.00 per hour. The California minimum wage for businesses with less than 26 employees will also increase to \$13.00 per hour.

Income is reasonably anticipated when the Human Services Specialist (HSS) determines it is reasonably certain that the customer will receive a specified amount of income during any month of the payment period; this applies to both earned and unearned income.

**Procedure:**

**CalWORKs and CalFresh Programs**

Employed individuals are expected to report income reflecting the minimum wage increase beginning January 2021 Data Month (SAR 7) or February 2021 redetermination/recertification (RRR), and HSSs will evaluate the reported income for the upcoming payment period. If unable to obtain clarification, the SAR 7 or RRR will be considered incomplete until all needed information or verification is submitted.

If the customer reports a pay increase prior to January 1, 2021, use current reporting regulations to determine when the change of income should be used in the budget. Additionally, clarify with the customer and request verification as necessary to determine if the income can be reasonably anticipated and budgeted in the upcoming payment period.

**ES**

Employment Case Managers (ECMs) must perform the Simplified CalFresh Program (SCFP) Calculation to determine the maximum number of hours that a participant can be required to participate in a Work Experience (WEX) or Community Service (CS) assignment. ECMs must use the minimum wage of \$13.00 when completing such a calculation through December 31, 2020.

**CalFresh**

For WINS, if verification provided does not include the hours worked, divide the Work-Eligible Individual's (WEI) wages by the State minimum wage plus fifty cents (State Minimum Wage + \$0.50) to determine if they meet the hours requirement.

State and Federal Minimum wages are used in the following computations:

- CFAP Work Requirements
- Work Registration Requirements

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- Voluntary Quit
- Student Eligibility Requirements
- WINS Eligibility
- E&T Work Requirement
- E&T Exemption Criteria
- Determination of Workfare Hours

**CalFresh E&T**

For E&T, the number of Workfare hours assigned each month is determined by dividing the household's CalFresh allotment by the Federal or State minimum wage, whichever is higher. Currently, the California minimum wage is higher

**General Relief Work Project**

The Work Project assignments are determined by dividing the net grant by the Federal or State minimum wage, whichever is higher. The credit for Work Project completed is determined by multiplying the number of hours worked by the current Federal or State minimum wage, whichever is higher. As the current California minimum wage is higher than the Federal minimum wage, staff must use the new California minimum wage for the number of Work Project days assigned for January 2021 and ongoing.

Please refer to Attachment A for a reference table of the number of Work Project days to be assigned based on the corresponding GR grant amounts.

**Program Impacts:**

None

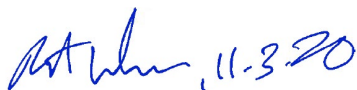
**References:**

- Senate Bill (SB) 3 (Chapter 4, Statute of 2016)
- ACIN I-67-20
- GRPG 90-700.8.C
- CPG 10-100.C
- CFPG 63-159, 63-162, 63-420, and 63-901

**Sunset Date:**

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

**Approval for Release:**



Rick Wanne, Director  
Eligibility Operations

**GENERAL RELIEF (GR) WORK PROJECT DAYS**

<b>Work Project Days Assigned</b>	<b>GR Grant Amount</b>
0 Days	\$0 - \$111
1 Day	\$112 - \$223
2 Days	\$224 - \$335
3 Days	\$336 - \$447
4 Days	\$448 - \$449