

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

CalWORKs COLA Increase to MBSAC and IIK Levels – July 2023

Number

23-04

Page

1 of 2

Effective Date:

July 1, 2023

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 2023-24 COLA increases the MBSAC and IIK levels by 6.85%, effective July 1, 2023.

Procedure:

Applicants

Use the updated MBSAC levels to determine financial eligibility for families who apply for CalWORKs on or after July 1, 2023. Take immediate action to review and correct any applications denied on or after July 1, 2023, 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 (AU) is not financially eligible for the application month of June 2023, evaluate eligibility beginning July 2023, using reasonably anticipated income and the updated MBSAC and IIK levels. Refer to CalWORKs Program Guide (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

The automated system will be updated in the near future to apply the increased MBSAC and IIK levels beginning July 2023. Additional information and management reports will be issued to staff when available.

Other Programs Affected

The updated MBSAC and IIK levels also apply to Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP).

Scratch Budget/Assistance Chart

The CalWORKs-CalFresh Scratch Budget will be updated shortly, and the CalWORKs Assistance Standards Chart has been updated with the increased MBSAC and IIK levels.

References:

- Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) 11450, 11452, 11453
- All County Letter (ACL) No. 23-48

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

CalWORKs COLA Increase to MBSAC and IIK Levels – July 2023

Number
23-04

Page
2 of 2

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by July 31, 2024.

Approval for Release:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Wanne for:", is written over the printed name.

Rick Wanne, Director
Self-Sufficiency Services