

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) CalFresh Program Guide

CalFresh Expansion for Recipients of Supplementary Security Income (SSI) and/or California State Supplementary Payment (SSP)

Number

63-330

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Effective Date:

06/01/19

Background:

The federal government allows a state the option to increase the SSP grant instead of administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to SSI/SSP recipients. This option is known as SSI/SSP cash-out. California chose to implement the cash-out policy in 1974 when the federal government began the combined federal-state SSI/SSP program.

Effective June 1, 2019, California is reversing this policy and expanding CalFresh eligibility to individuals receiving SSI/SSP, provided they meet all other eligibility criteria.

Purpose:

This section details the policy change and impacts to determining eligibility for SSI/SSP recipient households.

Policy:

63-330.1 Household Effective Dates

Newly Eligible Households

Households in which all members are SSI/SSP recipients are potentially eligible as of the implementation date (June 1, 2019). Benefits may NOT be issued before the implementation date.

Ongoing Households

Households currently receiving CalFresh with an excluded member who is an SSI/SSP recipient, will have the policy change implemented on a rolling basis at the next periodic report, recertification or when voluntarily requested by the household, no earlier than the implementation date.

If an ongoing household makes a voluntary mid-period report of a household composition change, it will be considered a request to implement the reversal of the cash-out policy and the previously excluded SSI/SSP recipient will be added to the household. This rule applies whether or not the reported household composition change is specific to the SSI/SSP recipient. The voluntary mid-period report may be made verbally or in writing and is considered verified upon receipt (VUR).

Adjust the household's benefits prospectively, as soon as timely and adequate notice can be provided.

63-330.2 Income, Resources and Deductions

As of the household effective date, members who were previously excluded due to receipt of SSI/SSP will become included household members. Their income, resources and deductions will be considered when determining eligibility for the household.

Reevaluate deductions when the deduction was previously prorated, due to the contribution of the SSI/SSP recipient who is now included in the household.

63-330.3 Verification

Before requesting documentation, verify SSI/SSP recipient income, payment status, etc. using existing data matches and databases such as:

- Payment Verification System (PVS)
- Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS)
- Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) Network

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63-330.4 Staggered Certification Periods

To stagger the increase of recertification cases after initial implementation, newly eligible SSI/SSP only households approved between June 1, 2019 and November 30, 2019, will be assigned a shorter certification period. See Processing Guide 330-01 for more information.

Procedure:

Processing Guide 330-1

Program Impact/s:

Automation

CalWIN will be updated with Release 57

Other Programs Affected

No Impact

Quality Control

Quality Control will cite the appropriate error when regulations cited in this program material have not been followed.

References:

All County Letters (ACL) 18-90, 18-90E, 18-118, 18-131, 19-03 and 19-12
MPP 63-402.226
CFR 273.1(b)(7)(ii)
AB 1811

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by 05/30/22

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations