

CaWORKs PROGRAM

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO PREVENT EVICTION (EAPE) PROGRAM FACT SHEET

The EAPE Program helps CaWORKs Welfare-to-Work (WtW) families who are behind in rent and/or utility bills due to a financial crisis which could lead to an eviction and homelessness. It provides eligible families with a once-in-a-lifetime* maximum of \$3,000 to pay their past due rent and/or utilities for up to two months to help them keep their housing. Families can apply for EAPE in person at any CaWORKs office.

To be eligible for EAPE, the participant must:

- Be CaWORKs approved;
- Have exhausted or not be eligible to the State's Permanent Homeless Assistance Arrearages payment;
- Be employed full-time, or employed part-time and actively participating in an approved GAIN WtW activity or Post-Time Limit (PTL) services, or unemployed and actively participating in an approved GAIN WtW activity or PTL services;
- Have a verifiable financial hardship resulting from circumstances beyond the family's control that caused the nonpayment of rent and/or utilities;
- Provide verification of the financial hardship;
- Provide verification of the past due rent and/or utilities; and
- Agree to pay a part of the past due rent and/or utilities.

Eligible families can only receive EAPE when the payment of back rent and/or utilities will prevent eviction. Families can access EAPE as needed until the once-in-a-lifetime* maximum is reached.

*Effective 05/09/16, the once-in-a-lifetime limit for EAPE increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for CaWORKs WtW families who are first-time EAPE applicants. CaWORKs WtW families, who received, but did not exhaust, EAPE funds when the once-in-a-lifetime limit for EAPE was



\$2,000, may receive EAPE funds until the \$2,000 limit has been exhausted. After the once-in-a-lifetime limit for EAPE has been exhausted, there is no exception to access EAPE again.

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