

CalWORKs PROGRAM

QUICK FACTS

1. What is CalWORKs?

CalWORKs is a 48-month (4-year) time limited cash program for needy families **with** (or expecting) **children**. CalWORKs can help you pay for housing, food, utilities, clothing, medical care and other needed expenses.

2. How can I qualify for CalWORKs cash aid and services?

Generally, you can get cash aid and services if:

- Your **eligible** children do not get any money or care from parents because of:
 - Death;
 - Disability;
 - Not employed/underemployed or
 - One or both parents are not in the home.
- You are a needy or non-needy caretaker who provides care for foster children.

3. How long can I receive CalWORKs cash aid?

You can receive cash aid for only 48 months total in a lifetime for most.

4. What is Welfare-to-Work?

Welfare-to-Work is a job service for you as a CalWORKs customer to help you find a job, stay employed, and move on to higher paying jobs. Welfare-to-Work can help you get off CalWORKs.

Welfare-to-Work Requirements:



- The 24-month Welfare-to-Work time clock started January 1, 2013 which applies to all CalWORKs customers.
- If you are receiving CalWORKs, you must participate in a range of CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work activities needed to become self-sufficient during the Welfare-to-Work 24-month time period.

Once the 24-month clock expires, you may only participate in core activities. (You can get detailed information online at [Welfare-to-Work](#) or by contacting your GAIN Services Worker.)

5. What other services can I get with CalWORKs?

- [Homeless Assistance](#);
- [Cal-Learn](#), a teen parent program;
- [Welfare-to-Work](#);
- [Childcare](#); and
- [Specialized Supportive Services](#) such as Domestic Violence; treatment for mental health, and substance use disorder problems; and Family Preservation Program assistance.

Having many of the above services can help you get off CalWORKs.

6. What are some things that are looked at for me and my family members to decide if we can receive CalWORKs?

- Citizenship status or immigration status;
- Age;
- Income;
- Resources;
- Assets; **and**
- Other factors.

See [Eligibility Requirements](#) for more details. Also, you can see the [Other Programs and Services](#) section for more information.

SURCHARGE-FREE EBT ATM LOCATIONS

7. Where can I find EBT ATM locations that are free to use?

- Find [EBT ATM locations](#) online that are free to use. Also, you can see a short [video](#) to learn more about free ATMs.
- Find online [Free ATMs nationwide](#).

8. How can I apply for CalWORKs?

You may apply for CalWORKs cash aid and services online at [Your Benefits Now](#) or by coming in to one of our local DPSS Offices.

When applying for CalWORKs, you can ask for fast help if your family has little or no cash and needs emergency housing, food, utilities, clothing, or medical care.

APPLICATION PROCESS

9. What happens when I apply for CalWORKs?

The DPSS office will set up a face-to-face interview with a CalWORKs Eligibility Worker that you **must** go to. At the interview, the CalWORKs Eligibility Worker will:

- Get any needed facts to prove your eligibility to the CalWORKs Program.
- Discuss with you and explain the rules and your responsibilities as the applicant.
- Ask that you complete the required application and forms and give proof of income and property; citizenship; age; social security; residence; shelter cost; if anyone in your family works or goes to school; and other information for each person in your family.

10. How can I make an appointment if I want to apply for CalWORKs?

Families who are applying for benefits can make an appointment online by going to the Your Benefits Now website at <http://www.yourbenefits.laclrs.org/ybn/Index.html>. Families can also access some of the CalWORKs rules by clicking on the links below:

- [Welfare-to-Work](#)
- [Time Limits](#)

11. How can I get more information about the documents I need to bring to apply for CalWORKs?

- You can see the [Most Commonly Requested Documents](#) to obtain:
 - A list of documents needed to apply for the programs and services that you need; and
 - The name and description of some offices where you can get the documents that you need.

OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

12. What are other programs and benefits that a CalWORKs family may be able to get?

- [Medical Coverage.](#)
- [Welfare-to-Work Program](#)
- [Child Care](#)
- [CalFresh Program](#)
- [Child Support](#)

See the [Los Angeles County Health Department](#) online facilities that provide immunizations.

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