

October 21, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS- UPDATE

(Bakersfield, CA) – On October 20, 2025, the Department of Human Services (DHS), along with all California counties, received guidance* from the California Department of Social Services about impacts to the *CalWORKs* and *CalFresh* programs due to the ongoing federal government shutdown.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), known in California as the *CalWORKs* program, provides cash aid and services to families in need. The State has not received guidance specific to the federal government shutdown from the Administration for Children and Families, which oversees TANF. Based on the State's projections, *CalWORKs* funding **is available** for November 2025 benefits.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known in California as *CalFresh*, provides food benefits to low-income individuals. As previously reported, *CalFresh* benefits for October 2025, and prior months are not impacted and benefits for October 2025 will continue to be issued. However, the State has been informed that federal funds are **not available** to pay for November 2025 benefits should the federal government shutdown continue.

DHS will continue normal operations for application processing and recertifications in compliance with Federal and State policies to ensure continuity of benefits when *CalFresh* funding is available.

CDSS is notifying beneficiaries via the following: direct text and email message. These messages will be delivered to households over the next five (5) days beginning this evening after 5:30pm and through Saturday, October 25, 2025.

*For guidance from California Department of Social Services, please visit [All County Letter 25-75](#). For more information, please visit [CalFresh Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If beneficiaries require immediate assistance to meet their basic needs, please call the local 2-1-1 or visit their website at [211 Home Page - CAPK | Community Action Partnership of Kern](#).

For more information about public assistance programs, please visit the California Department of Social Services at [Home | California Dept. of Social Services](#).

Our department is committed to providing more information as it becomes available.



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