

Housing Assistance Benefits - Quick Reference Guide

If you need help with paying for housing, there are programs available from the County. However, these programs are often limited and have special rules. Below is some general information about these programs.

Assistance for General Relief (GR) Recipients

Emergency Housing

- Homeless applicants for GR can get vouchers for a hotel or a motel for up to 14 days. You can get the vouchers even if you haven't started getting your benefits.
- However, once you begin receiving your GR, DPSS will deduct \$4.53 from your benefits for each day you actually used a voucher.

GR Eviction Prevention

- If your landlord wants to evict you for not paying your rent, you can get up to \$272 from DPSS to help.
- To get help, you must show:
 - a notice from your landlord that you failed to pay this or last month's rent, and
 - that the money DPSS can give will actually prevent your eviction (e.g. by having a letter from your landlord stating so.)
- The money is paid directly to your landlord, not to you.

Assistance for CalWORKs Recipients

There are several programs that help families on CalWORKs with housing.

- Most of the programs require that you are homeless or in danger of being homeless.
- In addition, families have to show financial difficulties. This is done by showing that you have no more than \$100 other than your cash aid.

These programs are usually *once-in-a-lifetime*, unless:

- you are a domestic violence victim,
- you have a physical or mental illness as verified by a doctor (but not people if it's substance abuse), or
- you are homeless or in danger of being homeless because of a natural disaster (e.g. an earthquake).

Temporary Shelter Money

- Families on CalWORKs can get vouchers for up to 16 days to stay in a hotel or shelter.
 - You will get between \$65 and \$125 per day to pay for shelter, depending on your family size.
 - DPSS should give you the money or referrals to specific shelters on the same day you apply.
- The money can only be used at actual shelters or hotels. You cannot use it to pay a friend you stay with.
 - You will have to show receipts that you paid for shelter or hotels.
 - You will have to fill out forms showing that you are actively looking for permanent housing.
- You can get money for one period of 16 *consecutive* days only. That means, you cannot ask for 10 days this week, then another 6 days next month.
- Some families may be able to get an extra 14 days of vouchers if they enroll and comply with the Homeless CalWORKs Families Project, and meet one of the following:
 - You work full-time.
 - You participate in GAIN or if you are timed-out from CalWORKs, you participate in GAIN Post-Time Limit Services.
 - You are a domestic violence victim.

*This guide is for informational purposes **ONLY**. Nothing in this guide should be construed as legal advice.
If you have questions about your benefits, please consult an attorney.*

Housing Relocation Assistance

- If your work and your childcare provider are too far away from each other, you can get money to find a new place to live that is closer to your work, your childcare, or transportation.
- You must meet all of the following:
 - You get or are eligible for CalWORKS.
 - You work or have a job offer for 20 hours per week or more.
 - Your commute is more than one hour each way to work, to your childcare, or a combination of the two. Alternatively, you must show there is no public transportation when your work shift starts or ends.
 - You must show that the new place does not cost more than 60% of your household income.
- You can get up to \$1,500 in help. You can also get up to \$405 for a refrigerator or stove if you need a new one because of the move.

Moving Assistance (MA) Program

- You can get up to \$2,000 to help you get permanent housing.
- You have to meet all of the following:
 - You get or are eligible for CalWORKS.
 - You must work full-time or participate in GAIN. If you are timed-out from CalWORKs, you must participate in GAIN Post-Time Limit Services.
 - You are homeless or at risk for homelessness. You will need to show DPSS a 3-day notice from your landlord or that you have a financial difficulty.
- The rent for the new home cannot be more than 80% of your household income.
- **Note:** If you are already homeless, you must use up all other assistance programs before getting MA.

Permanent Housing / Homeless Assistance (HA) Program

- You can get money to help you pay for security or utility deposits for a new place to live.
 - You can get money for the deposit as well as for "last month's rent."
 - You **cannot** get money for first month's rent or overdue utilities.
- You must meet all of the following:
 - You must get or be eligible for CalWORKs.
 - Your name should be on the new lease.
 - Your rent be more than 80% of your household income.
- If you already get CalWORKs, you can get the HA within one business day of asking for it. If you don't get CalWORKs yet, you first have to show you are eligible for CalWORKs.
- You can also get up to two months worth of rent payments if you owe rent to your landlord. You can get this only if your rent is not more than 80% of your household income.
- **Note:** If you later move from the home, the landlord must return the deposit to **you**, not DPSS.

Rental Assistance (RA) Program

- If you have used HA or MA to find a new place, you can also get some help paying for it. DPSS will pay up to \$500 on top of your regular aid, depending on family size, directly to your landlord to help you.
- You must meet all of the following:
 - You must get or be eligible for CalWORKS.
 - You must work full-time or participate in GAIN. If you are timed-out from CalWORKs, you must participate in GAIN Post-Time Limit Services.
 - You must have received or be eligible to receive HA and/or MA.
 - You must have a signed rental/lease agreement within the last 30 days. You can also show that you found housing while asking for HA or MA help.
 - You must show a receipt that rent has been paid for each month you receive a payment, before another payment is issued.
 - You cannot be eligible for other subsidized housing, such as Section 8.
- **The RA program is limited to 4 consecutive months only!**

*This guide is for informational purposes **ONLY**. Nothing in this guide should be construed as legal advice.
If you have questions about your benefits, please consult an attorney.*

Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction (EAPE) Program

- If you are having a financial difficulty (e.g. someone lost a job) and are at the risk of losing your home, you can get money for two-months' worth of rent.
 - You can get up to \$2,000 to help with the past rent.
 - You can also use help from this program to pay for past-due utilities.
- You must meet all of the following:
 - You must be eligible for CalWORKs.
 - You must not be eligible to the State's Permanent Homeless Assistance Arrearages payment.
 - You must work full-time or participate in GAIN. If you are timed-out from CalWORKs, you must participate in GAIN Post-Time Limit Services.
 - You must show that you have a financial hardship that could result in homelessness.
 - You must show that you have a past due rent and/or utilities.
- Recipients usually have to pay a portion of their past-due rent.

Please note: Being homeless is not a crime. Unless there is evidence of neglect or abuse of the children, the government cannot detain children. Homelessness by itself is not child abuse or neglect. Therefore, if you need housing assistance, you should ask for it sooner rather than later.

This guide is for informational purposes ONLY. Nothing in this guide should be construed as legal advice. If you have questions about your benefits, please consult an attorney.

DPSS Office Locations

You can apply for the above-mentioned programs in person at one of the district offices listed below.

Please note: the housing benefits programs are tied to the type of cash-aid you receive.

CW = CalWORKs; GR = General Relief

<p>Belvedere (05) (CF, CW) 5445 Whittier Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90022 (323) 727-4542</p> <p>Civic Center (14)* (CF, GR) 813 E. Fourth Place Los Angeles, CA 90013</p> <p>Compton (26)* (CF, CW) 211 E. Alondra Blvd. Compton, CA 90220</p> <p>Cudahy (06) (CF, CW) 8130 S. Atlantic Ave. Cudahy, CA 90201 (323) 560-5192</p> <p>East Valley (11)* (CF, CW) 14545 Lanark St. Panorama City, CA 91402</p> <p>El Monte (04)* (CF, CW) 3350 Aerojet Ave. El Monte, CA 91731</p> <p>Exposition Park (12)* (CF, CW) 3833 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90037</p> <p>Florence (17)* (CF, GR, CW) 1740 E. Gage Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90001</p> <p>Glendale (02) (CF, CW, GR) 4680 San Fernando Rd. Glendale, CA 91204 (818) 546-6100 or (818) 546-6200</p> <p>Lancaster (34)* (CF, CW) 349-B East Ave. K-6 Lancaster, CA 93535</p>	<p>Lancaster General (67)* (CF, GR) 337 East Ave K-10 Lancaster, CA 93535</p> <p>Metro East (15) (CF, CW, GR) 2855 E. Olympic Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90023 (323) 260-3718</p> <p>Metro Family (13)* (CF, CW) 2615 S. Grand Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90007</p> <p>Metro North (38)* (CF, CW) 2601 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90057</p> <p>Metro Special (70)* (CF, GR) 2707 S. Grand Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90007</p> <p>Norwalk (40)* (CF, CW) 12727 Norwalk Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650</p> <p>Santa Clarita (51)* (CF, CW) (Norwalk Sub-Office) 27233 Camp Plenty Rd. Canyon Country, CA 91351</p> <p>Paramount (62) (CF, CW) 2961 E. Victoria St. Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221 (310) 603-5251</p> <p>Lincoln Heights (66) (CF, CW) (Paramount Sub-Office) 4077 N. Mission Rd. Los Angeles, CA 90032 (323) 342-8180</p> <p>Pasadena (03)* (CF, CW, GR) 955 N. Lake Ave. Pasadena, CA 91104</p>	<p>Pomona (36)* (CF, CW, GR) 2040 W. Holt Ave. Pomona, CA 91768</p> <p>Rancho Park (60)* (CF, CW, GR) 11110 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90064</p> <p>San Fernando (32)* (CF, GR) 9188 Glenoaks Blvd. Sun Valley, CA 91342</p> <p>San Gabriel (20)* (CF, CW, GR) 3352 Aerojet Ave. El Monte, CA 91731</p> <p>South Central (27) (CF, CW, GR) 10728 S. Central Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90059 (323) 563-4401</p> <p>South Family (31)* (CF, CW) 17600 A Santa Fe Ave. Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221</p> <p>South Special (07)* (CF, GR) 17600 B Santa Fe Ave. Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221</p> <p>Southwest Family (83)* (CF, CW) 8300 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044</p> <p>Southwest Special (08)* (CF, GR) 1819 W. 120th St. Los Angeles, CA 90047</p> <p>West Valley (82)* (CF, CW) 21415-21615 Plummer St. Chatsworth, CA 91311</p> <p>Wilshire (10)* (CF, GR) 2415 6th St. Los Angeles, CA 90057</p>
--	---	---

* - these offices only receive calls through the Customer Service Center (CSC). You can reach the CSC at **(866) 613-3777**. You will need a 10-digit Customer ID Number and a 6-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) to get case specific information. If you do not have those numbers, you can request them when speaking with a Customer Service Representative.



***This guide is for informational purposes ONLY. Nothing in this guide should be construed as legal advice.
If you have questions about your benefits, please consult an attorney.***