

## SAR 7 Eligibility Status Report Instructions (SAR 7A)

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Save this guide to help you fill out your SAR 7 Eligibility Status Report. If you have questions or need help filling out your report, you can contact or visit your county agency's office.

### Tips for completing your SAR 7



**Reminder:** You can complete your SAR 7 online at [www.Benefitscal.com](http://www.Benefitscal.com) or scan the QR code with your smartphone to complete your SAR 7.

Scan to  
complete  
your  
SAR 7  
online.

- You need to fill out your SAR 7 to keep getting benefits.
- **Your completed SAR 7 is due on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of your 'submit month'.**  
Your 'submit month' is listed at the top of your SAR 7 the county sends you.
- Your benefits can be delayed, changed, or stopped if the county gets your SAR 7 after the 11<sup>th</sup> of the submit month, if you do not submit a complete report, or do not attach required proof. (You can request good cause if your SAR 7 is submitted late 'by telling the county if you have a good reason why your SAR 7 is late.)
- Your benefits may go up, down, or stop based on the information you provide on your report.
- When you submit your SAR 7, attach proof if it is needed. If you need help getting proof or don't have proof, check the box that says 'I need help getting proof/I don't have proof' or call the county, they can help.
- CalWORKs or other cash aid (such as ECA, RCA, or TCVAP) questions have a dollar sign  symbol. CalFresh questions have a spoon and fork  symbol.
- Attach a separate sheet of paper if you need more space to answer any question or to explain an answer.

### Common Questions and Answers

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Read the answers for common questions asked when filling out the SAR 7.

#### When do I complete my SAR 7?

**You need to submit a SAR 7 once a year.** Depending on your household type your SAR 7 will be due at the 6<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> month after your application/annual renewal.

- **Submit Month:** The month you must provide the SAR 7 to the county.
- **Report/Data Month:** The month before the submit month. The information you report on your SAR 7 should be from your report/data month.

**Did you know?** You can see when your SAR 7 is due and other information about your SAR 7 by making an account at [www.Benefitscal.com](http://www.Benefitscal.com).

## **When is my SAR 7 due?**

**Your completed SAR 7 is due on the 5th day of your “submit month.”** Your “submit” month is listed at the top of the SAR 7 the county sends you. Please see important reminders below to keep your benefits on time:

- Turn in your completed SAR 7 by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of your “submit” month to get your benefits on time.
- Your SAR 7 is considered late after the 11<sup>th</sup> day of your “submit” month
- You have until the first working day following your submit month to turn in your SAR 7. If we get your SAR 7 after that date you may not get your benefits on time.
- If you miss these deadlines, you may not get your full benefits, or your benefits may stop. If your benefits stop, you will need to reapply.

## **How do I fill out my SAR 7?**

To fill out your SAR 7 you need to make sure to:

- Review pre-printed information.
- Answer all the required questions.
- Fill in all the information for any changes you report.
- Attach all proof when the form asks for it (ask the county if you need help getting proof).
- Sign and date the form.

**Pre-printed information:** Some sections on the SAR 7 will already have information you reported in the past under **“Here is what we know.”**

- You will need to review the information we have about you and every member of your household and then answer the question(s) asked under the **“Update or add new”** sub-sections.
- If you check “Yes, fill in below” you will need to write in the updated or new information.
- If you check “No” then go to the next question or section.

**Attaching proof.** If asked to provide proof:

- Check “I have attached proof” and turn in your SAR 7 with the proof.
- If you do not have proof or need help getting proof, check “I don’t have proof/I need help getting proof”.
- There are different types of proof you can submit. If you are not sure if you have proof, contact the county, they can help give you options of different proof you can submit.

**Your benefits may be late or stopped** if your SAR 7 is not complete when you turn it in. We will tell you which questions you need to answer and/or what proof you need to turn in.

**You can ask the county for help if:**

- You are not sure how to answer a question.
- You need help filling out the SAR 7.
- You need help getting proof.

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## **Who do I report on my SAR 7?**

**For CalWORKs or other cash aid:** Everyone in your Assistance Unit (AU). Your AU includes:

- All children (under 19 years of age) – Natural, adopted, and stepchildren (including newborns).
- All parents – Natural, adoptive, and stepparent.
- Other aided relatives in the child’s case.
- You and your spouse or registered domestic partner.
- Anyone who is temporarily absent from the home. A temporary absence happens when a member of your AU is out of the home for less than one full calendar month. You must report them in your SAR 7 even if the parent/child is not getting their own CalWORKs or other cash aid.

**For CalFresh (with or without cash aid):** Everyone in your household. Your household includes:

- All children under 22 years of age.
  - All related adults.
  - All other people in the household who regularly buy and prepare food with you.
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## **Who must sign my SAR 7?**

**For CalWORKs or other cash aid:** You and your aided spouse, registered domestic partner, or the other parent (of cash- aided children) if they live in your home.

### **Cash aid includes:**

- **CalWORKs** (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids)
- **Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)**
- **Trafficking and Crime Victim Assistance Program (TCVAP)**
- **Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA)**

In your SAR 7, the term ‘household’ may be used to refer to both CalWORKs or other cash aid AUs and CalFresh households.

**For CalFresh:** Only the head of household, authorized representative, or a responsible household member. A responsible household member is someone over the age of 18 who can make decisions for the household.

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## **How do I submit my SAR 7?**

You can submit your SAR 7 and attached proof using one of the options below.

- **Online** at [www.Benefitscal.com](http://www.Benefitscal.com) or Scan the QR code above.
- **By mail** in the envelope that came with this form.
- **By Fax** at \_\_\_\_\_.
- **By phone** at \_\_\_\_\_.
- **In person** to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ . They are open Monday through Friday, \_\_\_\_ a.m. to \_\_\_\_ p.m.

You can also submit your SAR 7 in the county agency’s drop box or mail slot.

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## **How to Answer Each Section in your SAR 7**

This section will tell you how to answer each question in your SAR 7.

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### **Stop My Benefits**

**Complete only if you want your benefits to STOP.**

If you want your benefits to STOP, check the box for the program that you want to stop. Then sign and date the form and return it. If you choose to STOP your benefits, you will get a notice telling you that your benefits have stopped. If you only want to stop some of your benefits and keep others, you must fill out the rest of the SAR 7.

- If you return your SAR 7 asking for your CalWORKs or other cash aid benefits to STOP, you may be able to keep getting CalFresh benefits for 5 months. This is called transitional CalFresh. **If you do not return your SAR 7 you will not be eligible for Transitional CalFresh benefits.**
- If you ask to stop your CalWORKs or other cash aid, you may be eligible for no cost or low-cost health coverage even if you are now employed. Your Medi-Cal may be stopped or changed, or you may have to pay a share-of-cost. If you have questions about your Medi-Cal after stopping CalWORKs or cash aid, contact your county.

### **Disability**

**Answering these questions is optional but can help you get other services or help. If you choose not to answer these questions you will still get your benefits.**

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There are two questions in the disability section:

- **The first question** is to find out who has a disability. If anyone in your household is disabled, becoming disabled, recovering from a disability or major illness, or is no longer disabled, check “Yes, fill in below.” In the space provided list their name(s) and tell us what type of disability they have or no longer have.
  - **The second question** is asking you to tell us if anyone in your household needs help because of a disability, such as needing support to fill out forms, the eligibility process, participating in work activities, housing, or anything else related to benefits. If anyone needs help because of a disability, check “Yes, fill in below.” In the space provided, list their name(s) and tell us what type of help they need.
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## **Contact Information**

The section to the left will show what we have for your household. You need to review this information. If there has been a change in your contact information, check “Yes, fill in the right side of the table” and provide your new contact information in the section to the right. If there have been no changes, check “No” and move to the next section.

**For households without a permanent home address or experiencing homelessness**, check “I am homeless” in the section to the right and write the best mailing address for your household. The county may contact you about possible homeless services. If you are a homeless CalWORKs applicant or recipient, you have the option to submit the CW 42 form to apply for CalWORKs Homeless Assistance.

**If you do not have a permanent mailing address**, there may be some alternative drop-in mail service options for your household, depending on the county you live in. To check whether these options are available in your county contact your county or call 211.

### **Alternative mailing address options include:**

- **Friends or family**
- **Post Office (PO) Box**
- **Community-Based Organization(s):** If you choose this option, you will need to contact your Community-Based Organization to set this up.
- **Your county welfare department’s mailing address:** If you choose this option, you will need to contact your county welfare department to find out how to collect your mail.
- **General Delivery:** Check with your post office to see if the service is offered. You will need to contact your post office to set this up.
- **Shelter mailing address:** If you choose this option, you will need to contact your shelter to set this up.

### **Get text messages**

If you would like to get text messages from the county about your benefits, check “Yes” after you write your phone number. Data and messaging rates may apply.

### **Get electronic notices**

If you would like to get electronic notices from the county about your benefits, check “Yes” after writing your email address. The county may follow up with this request.

### **View case information and notices online**

You can also sign up for a BenefitsCal account at [www.MyBenefitsCal.com](http://www.MyBenefitsCal.com) where you can view your case information and notices through the app or online.

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## **Household Members**

### **Here is what we know:**

This section shows what we have about you and every member of your household. You need to review this.

**Update or add new household members:**

**If there have been changes since you last reported or there will be a change within the next 6 months to your household**, check “Yes, fill in below” and tell us the change(s). If you check “No”, then move on to the next section.

Write the **(1)** name, **(2)** date of birth, **(3)** how they are related to you or the head of household, **(4)** what the change is, and for CalFresh only, **(5)** if they regularly buy and make food with you.

**Examples of changes:** Newborn children, people who are temporarily absent from the home, getting married or divorced, any household members who moved into or out of the home, an adopted child, anyone who died, entered, or left a hospital or institution (including jail or prison), someone started or stopped buying and making food with you.

- **For CalWORKs** or other cash aid, a temporary absence typically happens when a member of your cash aid assistance unit is out of the home for less than one full calendar month.
- **For CalFresh**, a temporary absence happens when someone in your household is out of the home but plans to come back within a year.

If you or someone in your household is temporarily absent from the home, **(1)** write the name of the person who is temporarily absent in the box under “Household member name”, **(2)** fill out their date of birth, **(3)** fill out how they are related to the head of household, **(4)** check “Temporary absence”, **(5)** under “explain” tell us when they moved out and when they are going to return (if you know), and **(6)** check if they regularly buy and make food with the head of household.

**If you are not sure who to report**, please refer to “Common Questions and Answers” under the sub-section “Who do I report on my SAR 7” on page 2.

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**Income**  **Here is what we know:**

This section shows what we have about you and every member of your household. You need to review this.

**Update or add new income:**

**If there has been a change since you last reported or there will be a change within the next 6 months to your earned or unearned income**, check “Yes, fill in below” and tell us the change(s). If you check “No”, move on to the next question.

To report a change that will happen in the next 6 months, like starting a new job, you must know how much money you will be getting and how often you’ll get it. If you don’t know this, you do not have to report it on your SAR 7. You must report when your income goes over the Income Reporting Threshold (IRT), even if you did not have to report the change.

**List all earned and unearned income you got in the report month.** Write **(1)** the name of who got the income, **(2)** what the change is and the date of the change, **(3)** where they got the income from **(4)** how often paid, **(5)** the total gross amount they got and date(s) got it, **(6)** the number of hours worked in the month if employed, **(7)** attach proof of the income you reported.

**For CalFresh only:** if you check “No”, you do not have to submit proof of your income.

- **How often paid** is how often you got a payment, such as every week (weekly), every other week (biweekly), twice a month (semi-monthly), or every month (monthly). If paid differently than what is listed, mark “Other” and tell us when you are paid.
- **Gross income** means the amount you get before deductions are taken out, including taxes, Social Security or other retirement contributions, health care plan premiums, garnishments, etc.
- **Date received** is the day you were paid by your employer or the day you got payment.
- **Provide information** about any source of earned income, unearned income, or money that has stopped since you last reported.
- **Attach proof.** Check “I have attached proof” at the bottom of the section if you are giving us proof of your income with your SAR 7. Check “I do not have proof/I need help getting proof” if you need help getting proof. The county may be able to help you get proof.

**Earned income** is money from a job and includes a paycheck, wages, cash, strike benefits, vacation pay, tips, training allowances, benefits, bonuses, money from self-employment, temporary job or training income, rental income, IHSS income, etc.

- **If self-employed**, you can get a 40% standard deduction for expenses without proof. If your expenses are higher and you want to claim actual expenses, list all business expenses on a separate sheet of paper. Attach proof of those expenses if you are using actual expenses.
- **Proof of earned income** includes but is not limited to check stubs, copies of checks or statements from the employer, or receipts or proof of earnings if self-employed.
- **Proof of the change** can be a letter from the employer or a signed written statement from you.
  - The county needs to know if the earned income you or anyone in your household got will continue over the next 6 months or if there will be a change
  - If you know your income will change, tell us when and how much. For example, if someone has been offered a job and knows their hourly wage and schedule, you must report this even if they have not started working or been paid yet.
  - If anyone is working on-call or has a work schedule that changes, including overtime, tell us in this section.
- **Fluctuating income** is income that changes month-to-month or even week-to-week and is not expected to stay the same. If your income changes so much that you cannot tell us what you expect your income to be in future months and believe that it will be different from the amount you got during your report/data month (the month before your submit month), report that on your SAR 7. Here are a few ways you can report fluctuating income:
  - If you expect a minimum amount of income for future months, list that on your SAR 7. In the table **(1)** write the name of the household member that has fluctuating income, **(2)** write “fluctuating income” under Explain, **(3)** check if the income is from a job or not and who you got the income from, **(4)** check how often you usually get the income, **(5)** write in how much money you expect to get next month, and **(6)** write in how many hours you will work next month, if you know.
  - If you don’t have a minimum amount you expect to make for future months and cannot be sure about your future income, tell us on the SAR 7. In the table **(1)** write the name of the

household member that has fluctuating income, **(2)** write “fluctuating income” under Explain, **(3)** check if the income is from a job or not and who you got the income from, **(4)** check how often you usually get the income, **(5)** write \$0 where it asks “Amount received”, and **(6)** If you’re not sure if you will be working any hours next month, write 0. If you are not sure how to report your fluctuating income, call your county office, they can help guide you on how to report your income on your SAR 7.

**Unearned income** is money you get that does not come from a job. Unearned income can be unemployment benefits, Social Security, disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP), child support, gifts, or worker’s compensation. For CalWORKs only, you need to report if your household gets rent or utilities for free or in exchange for work. For example, you work for your landlord for free rent, or work for a job that gives you housing or utilities.

- **Disability or Retirement** income includes SSI/SSP, Social Security, Veteran’s disability benefits, railroad retirement, worker’s compensation, or any private or other disability/retirement payments.
- **Unemployment insurance benefit (UIB)** income provides partial wage replacement to workers who have lost their job and meet the program’s eligibility requirements.
- **Other:** insurance or legal settlements; interest or dividends, strike benefits, tax refunds, gifts or loans, scholarships, financial aid, tax refund, rental income, rental assistance, free housing/ utilities/clothing/food (or if someone paid all these costs for you), child support, guaranteed income payment, or lottery/gambling winning payments.
- **Child support payment:** The payment you receive for your child or stepchild. Include payments received by a stepparent living in your home.
- **Proof of unearned income** can be check stubs, copies of the checks, award letters from the agency you got the money from, etc.
- **Proof of the change** can be a letter from the benefit provider, UIB award letter, or a signed written statement from you.
  - The county needs to know if the unearned income anyone in your household got will continue over the next 6 months or if there will be a change.
  - If you know your income will change, tell us when it will change and how much.

**If your unearned income has increased by more than \$ \_\_\_\_\_ within the last 6 months,** check “Yes, fill in below” and tell us the change(s) and remember to attach proof or let us know if you don’t have proof or need help getting proof. If you check “No”, then move on to the next question.

**If you or anyone in your household stopped working because of a strike,** check “Yes, fill in below” and tell us who stopped working and what the gross income was before going on strike. If you check “No”, then move on to the next section.

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## **Resources**

### **Here is what we know:**

This section shows the resources we have for you and every member of your household. You need to review this.



**Update or add new resources:**

If there have been changes since you last reported or know there will be a change within the next 6 months to your resources, check “Yes, fill in below” and tell us the change(s). If you check “No”, then move on to the next section.

List anyone who bought, sold, gave away, got as a gift/inherited, traded, or won resources, got a tax refund/credit, opened/closed an account, or had any other change in resources. Write (1) who got the resource, (2) the type of resource, (3) the amount/value of the resource, and (4) when it was received.

Check the box to tell us what happened with the resource you listed – check if the resource was bought, sold, gave away, got as a gift, traded, won, refunded, or credited, open or closed, or other. If you check “Other” tell us what happened in the space provided.

**Attach proof.** Check “I have attached proof” at the bottom of the section if you are giving us your SAR 7 with proof of the resource or change. Check “I do not have proof/I need help getting proof” if you need help getting proof. The county may be able to help you get proof.

**Examples of resources:** Cash on hand, money in checking or savings accounts, stocks or bonds, buildings, land, or personal resources.

Vehicles are not counted for CalFresh. You do not need to report a change in vehicle or a new car.

**Excluded resources:** There are some resources that are not counted for CalFresh, such as but not limited to your primary home, household goods, personal affects, cash value of life insurance policies, burial plots per household member, resources important to help with your employment or self-employment, or any resources that have cash value and are not accessible to the household. If you are not sure if your resources must be counted, contact your county.

**CalFresh resource limit:** Households can have up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ in countable resources or \$\_\_\_\_\_ in countable resources if at least one member of the household is age 60 or older or is disabled. Households with more than the listed amount of resources may not be eligible for continued CalFresh benefits.

**If you or anyone in your home got money from other sources, such as:**

- selling something
- a lawsuit settlement
- getting a gift
- winning money
- from an inheritance

**and the new total value of your resources is over \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \$\_\_\_\_\_ if you or someone in your household is aged 60 or older or disabled), and you spent some or all that money, you will need to complete the table under “Update or add new resources.”**

Tell us (1) who got it, (2) the type of resource, (3) when they got it, and (4) how much. You will then check what happened to the resource: bought, sold, gave away, got as a gift, traded, won, refunded, or credited, open or closed, or other. **Attach proof.**

**If you have any questions or are unsure if you need to report resources, call your county, they can help.**

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## **Expenses**

### **Here is what we know:**

This section shows what we have about you and every member of your household. You need to review this.

### **Update or add new expenses:**

**This question is optional, you do not have to answer this question, but if you answer this question, it may help you get more benefits.**

**If your expenses have changed since you last reported**, check “Yes” and tell us your expenses below. If you check “No”, you can move on to the next question under “**Rent and Utilities**”.

**Rent and Utilities:** If your address has changed since you last reported, check “Yes”. If your address has changed, you must tell us what your rent and utilities are. If you check “No”, you can move on to the next section.

**If you choose to tell us about your expenses or have a new address that you must tell us, tell us about your housing costs like rent, utilities, mortgage, renter’s or homeowner’s insurance, property taxes, and garbage/trash collection fees.** If your costs have increased because you moved, be sure to list the amounts. Also, list the actual costs of property taxes and homeowner’s/ renter’s insurance. Providing these costs may increase your CalFresh food benefits. Tell us about your other household expenses. This information may lower the income we count and increase your benefits.

- Report new costs or changes to costs for child or adult care needed for work or training.
- If anyone pays child support, report any changes in the amount paid and provide proof.
- For people aged 60 and older or who are disabled, report any changes to out-of-pocket medical costs. Attach proof to see if you can get more benefits.

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**Examples of Expenses:** Medical expenses, health insurance premiums, child care, dependent care or adult care, college tuition and supplies, mandatory school fees, child/spousal support, transportation, room and board, and housing costs such as electric/gas, water, and mobile home lot rent.

You can also report your self-employment expenses here. If you are self-employed and have expenses, let us know if you want to claim a standard deduction of 40% or actual expenses. You can do this by writing on your SAR 7 next to your self-employment income that you want to claim the 40% standard deduction. If you choose the 40% standard deduction, we will deduct 40% of your reported self-employment. For example, if you report in the income section you got \$100 in your self-employment, and choose the standard deduction of 40%, we will only count \$60 out of the \$100 you reported as income; the other \$40 will be considered expenses. If you believe your expenses are more than what the standard deduction of 40% will count, you can claim your actual expenses. If you claim your actual expenses, you must provide proof of your actual expenses, such as receipts or bills with your SAR 7. If you report actual expenses in your SAR 7 but don’t give use proof, no expenses will be deducted.

If you don't have permanent housing, tell us if you spend money on temporary housing like hotels/motels, shelters, campsites, shared housing, or lodging.

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### **Gambling or Winning the Lottery**

**The county needs to know if anyone got money from gambling, lottery, or casino winnings.**

**If you or anyone in your household won \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or more from gambling or playing the lottery**, check "Yes, fill in below." Then tell us (1) the name of the person who won, (2) when they won, (3) and how much they won.

If you check "No", then move on to the next section.

**Attach proof.** Check "I have attached proof" at the bottom of the section if you are giving us proof with your SAR 7. Check "I do not have proof/I need help getting proof" if you need help getting proof. The county may be able to help you get proof.

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### **CalFresh Work Requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents**

**This question applies to anyone determined to be an Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD). This question is optional, you do not have to answer, but it may help you keep getting benefits.**

The table shows the names of the members of your household who have been determined to be an ABAWD.

**Checking any of the checkboxes may excuse the individual(s) listed above from the ABAWD work requirement.** If there is more than one ABAWD in the home, provide information on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to your SAR 7 form.

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### **Outstanding Warrant/Probation or Parole Violation**

**If you or anyone in your household is currently running from a warrant for a felony crime or is found to be in violation of parole or probation** check "Yes, fill in below." Then tell us (1) the name of the person, (2) check if they are running from an outstanding felony warrant or if they are violating their probation or parole, (3) when the warrant or violation happened (if you know), and (4) the state where it happened.

If you check "No", then move on to the next section.

**Outstanding Warrant:** Running from an outstanding warrant means a person is avoiding or running from law enforcement. Or it could mean that an arrest has been issued for a felony crime and the person should have known that law enforcement was looking for them.

**Parole/Probation Violation:** Being in violation of parole or probation means a court has found you to be in violation of the terms of your probation or parole. The original crime for which parole or probation was ordered could be a felony or misdemeanor.

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### **Life Events**

**You will need to complete this section to keep your CalWORKs or other cash aid benefits.**

This section applies to anyone already living with you who had any of these things happen since you last reported.

**If there has been a change, select what has changed and provide your explanation under “Explain” at the bottom of the section.** If you check “No Changes”, then move on to the next section.

- **No Changes:** Check this box if none of the above happened to your household.
- **Family Changes:** This includes getting married, separated, divorced, entering or ending a California Registered Domestic Partnership (RDP), or a non-California Domestic Partnership (DP), becoming pregnant, or no longer pregnant, adopting a child and/or fostering a child.
- **Immigration Changes:** This includes changing citizenship or immigration status, obtaining a work permit, or when your card/document expiration date has changed.
- **Custody Changes:** This means you should report if you no longer have custody or if your custody or the amount of time you spend with the child(ren) has been increased or reduced to less than 50 percent.
- **In-Home Supportive Services Changes:** This includes stopping or starting services.
- **School/College Attendance Changes:** You may be able to claim costs for books, school transportation, etc.
- **Other Changes:** Check this box for other changes that are not listed. Tell us the change in the space provided.

**Attach proof.** Check “I have attached proof” at the bottom of the section if you are giving us proof with your SAR 7. Check “I do not have proof/I need help getting proof” if you need help getting proof. The county may be able to help you get proof.

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## **Signature and Date**

**You need to sign and date the SAR 7 “under penalty of perjury.” This means that you swear (promise) that the responses or answers you give are true, correct, and complete.**

**Perjury is a felony crime.** It means you swore (promised) to tell the truth and then you were dishonest.

## **Reminders about CalWORKs or other cash aid fraud:**

**CalWORKs or other cash aid fraud** is when you fail to report information or report the wrong information, on purpose, in order to try to get more benefits. Fraud is a crime.

## **Penalties for CalWORKs or other cash aid fraud:**

**If you are convicted of fraud or if you are disqualified for intentionally (on purpose) not reporting your eligibility information correctly, you may lose your share of the CalWORKs or cash aid.** How long you will lose it depends on what the crime was and whether you had committed fraud before. You may also have to pay a fine up to \$10,000 and/or be sent to jail or prison for up to 3 years.

## **Your CalWORKs or other cash aid can be stopped:**

- For not reporting all facts or for giving wrong facts on purpose: your CalWORKs or other cash aid can be stopped for 6 months for the first time, 12 months for the second time, or forever for the

third time you do not report all facts or give wrong facts on purpose.

- For turning in more than one application to get aid for the same family members in a different case in the same time period: your CalWORKs or other cash aid can be stopped for 2 years for the first conviction, 4 years for the second conviction, and **forever** for the third conviction.
- For conviction of felony welfare fraud, the penalties are: 2 years for extra benefits under \$2,000; 5 years for amounts of \$2,000 through \$4,999; and **forever** for amounts of \$5,000 or more.
- **Forever:** For giving the county false proof of residency in order to get aid in two or more counties or states at the same time; intentionally (on purpose) giving the county wrong facts for an ineligible child or a child that does not exist; getting more than \$10,000 in cash benefits through fraud; getting a third conviction for fraud in a court or an administrative hearing.

### **Penalties for CalFresh fraud:**

If you are convicted of fraud or if you are disqualified for intentionally (on purpose) not reporting your eligibility information correctly, your CalFresh can be stopped for 12 months for the first violation, 24 months for the second, and forever for the third. You may be fined up to \$250,000 and/or sent to jail or prison for 20 years.

### **Your CalFresh can be stopped if you are found guilty in any court of law or administrative disqualification hearing because:**

- You traded or sold CalFresh benefits for firearms, ammunition, or explosives. Your CalFresh benefits can be stopped **forever** for the first violation.
- You traded or sold CalFresh benefits for controlled substances. Your CalFresh benefits can be stopped for 24 months for the first violation and **forever** for the second.
- You traded or sold CalFresh benefits that were worth \$500 or more. Your CalFresh benefits can be stopped **forever** for the first violation.
- You gave the county false identity or residence information to try to get CalFresh benefits in more than one case at the same time. Your CalFresh benefits can be stopped for 10 years.

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### **Reminder - Who Must Sign your SAR 7?**

You must sign **AND** date your SAR 7, answer all required questions, and attach proof if needed for your SAR 7 to be considered complete.

**For CalWORKs or other cash aid:** You and your aided spouse, registered domestic partner, or the other parent (of cash- aided children) if they live in your home. (For two-parent households, a signature and date is required from both parents).

### **Cash aid includes:**

- **CalWORKs** (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids)
- **Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)**
- **Trafficking and Crime Victim Assistance Program (TCVAP)**
- **Entrant Cash Assistance (ECA)**

**For CalFresh:** Only the head of household, authorized representative, or a responsible household member.

 **Remember to attach all proof if required, and all additional copies or extra pages.**

**If you need help answering a question or getting proof, the county can help.** Call your county using the number on the first page of your SAR 7.