

## CalWORKs EXEMPTION REQUEST FORM

*Please Print*

Your Name		<b>COUNTY USE ONLY</b>	
Address	Street	Case Name	
City	Zip	Case No.	
Phone		County	Other I.D. No.
<b>QUESTIONS? ASK YOUR WORKER.</b>		Worker Name	Worker Phone No.

Most adults can only get 60 months (5 years) of cash aid from the CalWORKs program. Unless exempt, an individual must participate in CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work activities as a condition for receiving aid.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CLIENT:

If you answer “Yes” to any of these questions, you may be exempt for a month or longer from the CalWORKs 60-month time limit and/or Welfare-to-Work participation. You may need to give information to help the county decide if you should be exempt. Please answer all of the questions. **The county cannot answer these questions for you. Please be sure to sign and date the back of this form.**

YES   NO   **Welfare-to-Work Participation**

Exemptions

- 1. Are you pregnant and does a doctor state that you cannot work or participate in Welfare-to-Work activities for:
  - 20 hours per week if you are a single-adult assistance unit with a child under 6 years old.
  - 30 hours per week if you are a single-adult assistance unit with no child(ren) under 6 years old.
  - 35 hours per week if you are a two-parent assistance unit.
- 2. Are you the parent or caretaker of a child age \_\_\_\_\_ or under? (Depending on the County, you maybe exempt if your child is 12 weeks old or under, 6 months old or under, or 12 months old or under.) This exemption is available only once in a lifetime.
- 3. If you have used exemption #2, have you recently become the parent or caretaker of another infant?
- 4. Are you a full time volunteer in the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) Program?

YES    NO    **CalWORKs 60-Month Time Limit and Welfare-to- Work Participation Exemptions**

5. Are you a 16 or 17-year old who has a high school diploma or its equivalent and is enrolled or planning to enroll in an educational, vocational or technical school training program?
6. Are you physically or mentally unable to work or participate in a Welfare-to-Work activity on a regular basis for at least 30 calendar days for at least:
- 20 hours per week if you are a single-adult assistance unit with a child under 6 years old.
  - 30 hours per week if you are a single-adult assistance unit with no child(ren) under 6 years old.
  - 35 hours per week if you are a two-parent assistance unit.
7. Are you the nonparent caretaker of a child who is a dependent or ward of the court, or at risk of being placed in foster care?
8. Do you need to stay home to take care of someone in the household who cannot take care of him/herself, (the person is ill, disabled, etc.) and this makes it hard for you to work or participate in a Welfare-to-Work activity?
9. Are you eligible for, participating in, or exempt from Cal-Learn? You are not eligible for this exemption if you are 19 years old and are not participating in Cal-Learn as a volunteer.
10. Are you living in Indian Country, as defined by federal law, in which 50 percent of the adults are unemployed? (This exemption applies only to the 60-month time limit, but not to Welfare-to-Work participation.)
11. Are you the parent or caretaker of a child age 0 - 23 months? This exemption is available **only once** in a lifetime starting 1/1/2013. You can take it now if it applies or save it in case you have another child.

**PLEASE READ PAGE THREE TO FIND OUT ABOUT MORE EXEMPTIONS.**

**Welfare-to-Work Participation Exemptions**

You will not be required to participate in the Welfare-to-Work program if any of the reasons below apply to you.

- You are under 16 years old.
- You are 16, 17, or 18 years old and in high school or adult school.
- You are 60 years or older.

You do NOT have to return this form for these exemptions.

**CalWORKs 60-Month Time Limit Exemptions**

A month of aid will not count against your CalWORKs 60-month time limit if any of the reasons listed below apply to you.

- You did not receive CalWORKs cash aid because your grant was less than \$10. This may not apply if your grant is being reduced because of a penalty or past overpayment.
- Your cash grant is fully repaid by child support collection.
- You are only receiving supportive services such as child care, transportation, and case management.
- You are 60 years or older.

You do NOT have to request these exemptions on this form. You may contact your worker if any of these reasons apply to you.

**CalWORKs Domestic Abuse Waivers**

If you or a family member are a past or present victim of domestic abuse and the county determines that your condition or situation prevents or impairs your ability to be regularly employed or to participate in Welfare-to-Work activities, the county may waive the CalWORKs 60-month time limit and Welfare-to-Work participation. You do not have to complete this form to get a waiver to the time limits. Instead, you can ask the county for a domestic abuse waiver.

**What Happens Next**

- You will be told in writing whether or not you are exempt from the CalWORKs 60-month time limit, and/or Welfare-to-Work participation, and the reason why.
- You may be asked to give the county proof of your reason for requesting an exemption.
- If you do not agree with the county, you may ask for a State Hearing.
- Depending on your situation, you may be evaluated each month to determine if you should continue to be exempt.

Signature	Date
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