## GUIDE FOR APPLYING FOR EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS ASSISTANCE:

CalFresh
CalWORKs
Medi-Cal
General Assistance







Welcome to the Human Services Department's COVID-19 guide for applying for benefits for food, medical and cash assistance.

You may apply for benefits online or by phone, while you shelter-inplace. We are available to help you.



The CalFresh Program, formerly known as Food Stamps, assists lowincome individuals and households to purchase nutritional food.

## CALFRESH FOOD ASSISTANCE

www.getcalfresh.org

# INTERVIEW MAY BE WAIVED FOR CALFRESH



Some CalFresh applicant households may have their initial interview <u>waived</u> if they submit all necessary documents with their application.



If an interview is required for your application, it will be completed over the phone.



Phone Customer Service Center: 1-888-421-8080

# EMERGENCY FOOD — EXPEDITED SERVICES CALFRESH

If you qualify for Expedited Services, you have the right to get emergency CalFresh benefits within three (3) business days from the time the county receives your application.

## ACCESS BENEFITS WITH AN EBT CARD



If you qualify for CalFresh, CalWORKs or General Assistance, you will receive an **Electronic Benefit Transfer** (**EBT**) debit card. You can use your card to purchase food and eligible items.

You can check your account balance, find retailers, and ATMs that accept the EBT card at <a href="www.ebt.ca.gov">www.ebt.ca.gov</a>

If you need to replace your EBT card or check your benefit account balance, you may call the EBT customer service line at 1-877-328-9677.

You may also call the Phone Customer Service Center at 1-888-421-8080.

## ACCESS HEALTH CARE WITH A BIC CARD



If you are eligible for Medi-Cal, you will receive a **Benefits Identification Card (BIC)** in the mail (if you do not already have one).

You may request a replacement benefit card through <a href="www.MyBenefitsCalWIN.org">www.MyBenefitsCalWIN.org</a> or by calling the Phone Customer Service Center at 1-888-421-8080.

The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program offers temporary cash aid, employment services and health insurance to eligible families who have children under age 19.

## CALWORKS



CalWORKs - Federal Disaster Homeless Assistance Program

CalWORKs applicants/recipients homeless due to COVID-19 may be eligible for homeless assistance even if they have received homeless assistance through CalWORKs during the last 12 months. www.mybenefitscalwin.org

### CALWORKS RECIPIENTS' TIME ON AID DURING COVID-19

California law limits cash assistance to 48 months of CalWORKs for adults.

Due to COVID-19, the months of March, April, May and June will not count towards the time limit.



Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid health care program.

MEDI-CAL



Medi-Cal provides health care services to low-income individuals including families with children, seniors (65 or older), individuals with disabilities, children in foster care, former foster youths up to age 26, pregnant women, and low-income people.

www.coveredca.com

## APPLY FOR BENEFITS TODAY:

## CALL OUR PHONE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

We understand you may encounter an extended wait time but for your safety and well-being during this COVID-19 outbreak we are encouraging you to conduct you benefit related matters via our Phone Customer Service Center, 7:30am to 5:00pm.



1-888-421-8080

## FOR AN EASY WAY TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS, DOWNLOAD THE APP ON YOUR SMART PHONE

Download the **My Santa Cruz County App** on Google Play or the App Store and click on HSD Submit Documents.

## A County Funded Loan Program

## GENERAL ASSISTANCE



The General Assistance Program is a County-funded loan program designed to assist adults in meeting their basic needs for housing, utilities, personal needs and transportation.

www.mybenefitscalwin.org

## WHERE TO APPLY FOR ONE OR MORE PROGRAMS? APPLY ONLINE:

Medi-Cal, CalFresh, General Assistance & CalWORKs:

www.mybenefitscalwin.org

Mail:

Human Services Department, P.O. Box 1320, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 Fax: (831)786-7100

Phone: 1-888-421-8080









## WHERE TO APPLY FOR CALFRESH ONLY? APPLY ONLINE:

#### www.getcalfresh.org

or

www.mybenefitscalwin.org



Mail:

Human Services Department, P.O. Box 1320, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 Fax: (831)786-7100

Phone: 1-888-421-8080

## WHERE TO APPLY FOR MEDI-CAL ONLY? APPLY ONLINE:

#### www.mybenefitscalwin.org

or

#### www.coveredca.com



Mail:

Human Services Department, P.O. Box 1320, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 Fax: (831)786-7100

Phone: 1-888-421-8080

### IF YOU ARE ALREADY RECEIVING ASSISTANCE:

### CalWORKs, CalFresh and General Assistance

If you are already receiving CalWORKs, CalFresh or General Assistance, you do not have to complete your SAR 7 (CW 7 for General Assistance) or renewal for the months of March, April and May.

For any questions call 1-888-421-8080.

#### Things to remember

- ✓ You must report if your gross monthly income goes over your household's Income Reporting Threshold (IRT).
- ✓ GA recipients need to report any changes in income within 10 days of the change.
- ✓ If your income goes down, your benefit amount may go up.

### MEDI-CAL REPORTING:

#### **Medi-Cal Renewal**

Please continue to submit your annual renewal for March,
April, May and June as it will be processed at a later date.

For any questions call 1-888-421-8080.

#### Reporting Changes

For a decrease or loss of income, or to add a person to your case, contact our Phone Customer Service Center: 1-888-421-8080.

### TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS

Our offices have limited access due to COVID-19, these are the ways you can provide any documents:

All programs – You will need to create an account <a href="https://www.mybenefitscalwin.org">www.mybenefitscalwin.org</a>

All programs - no account needed

My Santa Cruz County Mobile App or www.getcalfresh.org

Medi-Cal – You will need to create an account

www.coveredca.com

Fax: 831-786-7100

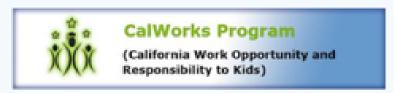
Mail:

Human Services Department P.O. Box 1320, Santa Cruz, CA 95061





REFERENCE FOR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT **ELIGIBILITY** REQUIREMENTS:





**CalWORKs Fact Sheet** 

Medi-Cal Fact Sheet

Modified Adjusted Gross Income Medi-Cal Fact Sheet

**General Assistance Fact Sheet** 

https://www.santacruzhumanservices.org/EmploymentBenefits





