

# Community Work Experience Program (CWEX) Fact Sheet



## **What is CWEX?**

CWEX is a non-salaried Welfare-to-Work (WTW) activity that provides CalWORKs recipients with the chance to gain the skills, experience, training, knowledge and work habits needed to get and keep a job.

## **What is CalWORKs?**

The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program is a time-limited program that provides financial assistance to eligible needy families. This is California's version of the Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program.

## **What is the purpose of CWEX placements?**

CWEX provides participants with on the job training to improve skills and provide current job experience. The goal is for the individual to gain the skills that will lead to full time, paid employment. Participants also meet CalWORKs WTW requirements through their CWEX placements.

## **How long does a CWEX placement last?**

A CWEX placement is intended to be short term and normally lasts up to six (6) months.

## **How many hours may a CWEX participant work?**

Hours vary according to the participant's WTW Plan. The average is between 20 and 30 hours a week.

## **Are there any wages or costs involved?**

No. Participants will continue to receive their monthly CalWORKs grants while in CWEX. In addition, CalWORKs may pay for child care and transportation costs.

## **Are there any restrictions on the types of work CWEX participants may perform in their placement?**

Employers must be in compliance with federal and state workplace requirements.

## **What about Worker's Compensation?**

The cost of Worker's Compensation will be paid by the state.

## **What is expected of participating agencies/employers?**

Initially, you will fill out a worksite agreement and job order to enroll in the CWEX Program. Once the participant is placed, you will need to orient them to their work site and provide training and mentoring. Employers will also need to complete and submit both a monthly time sheet and periodic evaluations. Ongoing communication between the agency and CWEX staff is essential.

## **What can I expect as a participating agency/employer?**

You will be connected with participants who meet the qualifications for your placement. You can interview and select the CWEX participant that is the best fit. You will receive ongoing support from your CWEX Coordinator to help you resolve any issues that may come up. Hopefully, though it is not required, you will find you have a great future employee!

## **How do I sign up, or get more information?**

Call (916) 875-3330 and ask for a CWEX Supervisor.

