



## TOA Notification and Exemptions CalWORKs FACT SHEET September 2025



The State of California has set the amount of time a parent can receive CalWORKs at 60 months. This is known as the CalWORKs Time on Aid (TOA) clock.

Some months may not tick the 60-Month TOA clock. Those months are referred to as exempt months and occur when a recipient meets a TOA **exemption**.

This is a partial list of exemptions:

- Aid reimbursed by the collection of child support
- Exempt from Welfare-to-Work participation due to being needed in the home to care for an ill/incapacitated person, dependent child of the court, or a child at risk of placement in Foster Care
- Age 60 or older
- Domestic Abuse
- Time on Paid Family Leave

Upon reaching the CalWORKs TOA limit of 60 non-exempt months, additional CalWORKs is not paid for the timed-out parent. Sometimes parents can receive additional CalWORKs if all the parents in the home meet a TOA **extender**. The list of extenders includes the exemptions above plus others, e.g. receipt of State Disability Insurance, Workers Compensation, In-Home Supportive Services, or State Supplement Program benefits

During the time when the parent is aided on CalWORKs, the parent must be kept informed of the amount of time used for the CalWORKs TOA clock. The CalWORKs recipients subject to the CalWORKs time limit must be notified of his/her TOA at the following times:

- Application/reapplication
- Annual redetermination
- Between the 54<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> month of receipt of CalWORKs
- In the last month of time eligible aid
- Anytime the recipient requests the information

The forms that can be used to request an exemption or extender are:

- CW 2186 – request for a CalWORKs TOA exemption, although a verbal request can be made at any time
- CW 2190 – request for a CalWORKs TOA extender.

Additional information may be required when making an exemption or extender request.

For more information about TOA, please review the [CalWORKs Fact Sheet](#) or contact DHA.