Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

NOTE: Confirm specific eligibility requirements of each benefit below by checking the information source directly.

Service	Description	At Risk Linkages Families	Info
INCOME SUPPORT			
General Assistance / General Relief	The GA/GR program provides relief and support to indigent adults who are not supported by their own means, other public funds, or assistance programs. Each county's GA/GR program is established and funded (100%) by its own Board of Supervisors.	• Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/pg132.htm
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs: California's version of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families – TANF)	CalWORKs provides temporary cash aid and services to eligible needy California families. CalWORKs provides time-limited assistance to help pay for food, shelter, utilities, and expenses other than medical. Eligibility is determined based on applicant's citizenship, age, income, resources, assets and other factors. • Parents with dependent children and/or pregnant women • Families that have a child(ren) in the home who has been deprived of parental support or care because of the absence, disability or death of either parent. • Families with a child(ren) when both parents are in the home but the principal earner is unemployed. • Needy caretaker relatives of foster child(ren).	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/calworks/
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	SSI provides a cash stipend to low-income adults and children who are blind, disabled or over 65 years old. It is a means-tested program designed to provide income for basic necessities such as food, clothing, and shelter.	• Relative caregiver • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent	http://www.ssa.gov/ssi/
Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	SSDI is a monthly cash assistance program for workers between 18-65 who have paid into Social Security (via payroll taxes) for a certain number of years and who become disabled. After receiving SSDI for two years, a disabled person will become eligible for Medicare. Under SSDI, a disabled person's spouse and children dependents are eligible to receive certain benefits. However, only adults over the age of 18 can receive the SSDI disability benefit. Unlike SSI, SSDI requires a 5-month waiting period from the time an individual becomes disabled to the time they can begin receiving benefits. • Parents who have worked & paid into Social Security and are now disabled • Relative caregiver, non-needy (un-aided)	• Relative caregiver	http://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/ssi.html
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	The EITC is a federally administered tax credit for low to moderate income working people, particularly those with children. The amount of EITC benefit depends on a recipient's income and number of children. The EITC reduces the amount of tax a person owes, and may result in a refund.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs	http://www.irs.gov/Credits-&-Deductions/Individuals/Earned-Income-Tax-Credit

Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

Service	Description	At Risk Linkages Families	Info
		• Foster Youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregiver	
California EITC	California Earned Income Tax Credit offers a tax credit for low- and moderate-income working families. EITC is designed to assist people with limited incomes by reducing the amount of federal income tax they owe. Even those who don't earn enough money to owe federal income taxes may be eligible for an EITC.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs • Foster Youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregiver	http://caleitc4me.org/
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT			
CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work	California's Welfare to Work (W2W) program is designed to assist welfare recipients to obtain or prepare for employment. The welfare to work program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally by each county welfare department or its contractors. All welfare to work participants receive an orientation to the program and an appraisal of their education and employment background. Initially, most individuals receive job search services (assistance in finding a job). Additional employment-related services are provided based on an individual's education and work history. Individuals may be assigned to unpaid work experience/preparation, vocational training placements or adult education or community college programs. Program participants may be eligible for help with child care, transportation, and work-related or training-related expenses. Moreover, participants who find a job and are no longer eligible for welfare may continue to receive help with medical care and child care expenses.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG141.htm
Workforce Investment Act (WIA)	California's Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) was established in compliance with the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 and amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 to provide customer-focused employment training resources for adults and dislocated workers. California's statewide list of qualified training providers offers a wide range of educational programs, including classroom, correspondence, online and apprenticeship programs.	• Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs • Non-custodial parent • Relative caregivers	http://www.edd.ca.gov/jobs_and_training/Eligible_Training_Provider_List.htm
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	The EITC is a federally administered tax credit for low to moderate income working people, particularly those with children. The amount of EITC benefit depends on a recipient's income and number of children. The EITC reduces the amount of tax a person owes, and may result in a refund.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs • Foster Youth emancipating from CWS	http://www.irs.gov/Credits-&-Deductions/Individuals/Earned-Income-Tax-Credit

Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

Service	Description	At Risk Linkages Families	Info
		• Relative caregiver	
California EITC	California Earned Income Tax Credit offers a tax credit for low- and moderate-income working families. EITC is designed to assist people with limited incomes by reducing the amount of federal income tax they owe. Even those who don't earn enough money to owe federal income taxes may be eligible for an EITC.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs • Foster Youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregiver	http://caleitc4me.org/
NUTRITION			
CalFresh (CalFresh is California's version of Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program – SNAP [formerly Food Stamps])	CalFresh is a benefit that helps low-income individuals and households purchase food. The benefits are available to the participant through an EBT card similar to any debit card. They can make purchases at most grocery stores and farmer's markets. Disabled, elderly, and homeless participants may use the benefits to purchase prepared food at participating restaurants. CalFresh is administered through the SNAP via the Federal government, supervised at the State level, and operated by individual Counties. The benefit amount varies as it is determined by household income, number of people in the household, and certain expenses taken into consideration.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent • Relative caregivers	http://www.calfresh.ca.gov/
WIC (Women, Infants and Children Program)	Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for low-income pregnant or breastfeeding women, and infants and children under the age of five. It is a Federal program that provides benefits to purchase foods rich in nutrients needed during growth periods as well as nutrition education and referrals to other community resources. Participants receive the benefits through a monthly check, voucher, or EBT card depending on County of residence. Most individuals and families that are recipients of other benefit programs, such as CalFresh, should be eligible for WIC benefits. If a Foster youth is pregnant or has a child, or iff a relative caregiver has guardianship, or if a non-custodial parent is pregnant, they may be eligible.	• Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible to CalWORKs • Undocumented (female) parent • Non-custodial parent • Relative caregivers	http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/wicworks/Pages/default.aspx
California Department of Education Child Care & Development Programs	State & Federally funded programs that use centers and family child care home networks operated or administered by public or private agencies and local educational agencies. These agencies provide child development services for children from birth through 12 years of age and older children with exceptional needs. The programs also provide meals and snacks, parent education, referrals to health and social services for families. • Income eligible families that have adjusted monthly income at or below 75% of state median income, adjusted for family size	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative Caregiver • Non-custodial parent	http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/

Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

HEALTH			
Medi-Cal	Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid health care program. This program pays for a variety of essential medical services for children and adults with limited income and resources. Medi-Cal is supported by Federal and state taxes. Transportation support to access medical treatment is also available. CalWORKS and SSI participants are automatically approved for Medi-Cal upon approval of their CalWORKS/SSI benefits. For many individuals who enroll in Medi-Cal, there is no premium, no co-payment, and no out-of-pocket cost. Emancipating foster youth would qualify for Former Foster Care Children Medi-Cal. Undocumented parents received a restricted card unless pregnant.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregivers • Non-custodial parents • Undocumented parent	http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/
Covered California	Makes it simple and more affordable for millions of Californians to qualify for health insurance. If income is very limited, the individual may be eligible for Medi-Cal or sliding scale. Open enrollment period is limited; check website for timing (generally Nov. – Dec.). Foster Youth would qualify for FFCC M/Cal	• Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Relative caregivers • Non-custodial parents	http://www.coveredca.com/
Child Health Disability Prevention (CHDP)	CHDP is a preventive program that delivers periodic health assessments and services to low income children and youth in California. CHDP provides care coordination to assist families with medical appointment scheduling, transportation, and access to diagnostic and treatment services. • Medi-Cal recipients from birth to age 21 • Non-Medi-Cal children and youth from birth to 19 whose family income is equal or less than 200% of the federal income guidelines • Relative caregivers and non-custodial parent if under 21	• Families eligible for CalWORKS • Families not eligible for CalWORKS • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregiver • Undocumented parent	http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/default.aspx
In Home Supportive Services (IHSS)	The IHSS Program will help pay for services as an alternative to out-of-home care in order to remain safely in the home where the caregiver is over 65 or disabled at any age, or blind; or for a disabled child.	• Families not eligible for CalWORKS • Relative caregiver • Non-custodial parents	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/agedblinddisabled/pg1296.htm
Access for Infants and Mothers Program (AIM) (Medi-Cal Assistance Program [MCAP])	Provides pregnant women with comprehensive health care coverage for a low cost with no co-payments or deductibles for its covered services. Their newborns may be covered by the DHCS AIM-Linked Infant and Children's Program and is eligible for up to two years. • Moderate income families who do not have health insurance and whose income is too high for no-cost Medi-Cal	• Families not eligible for CalWORKS • Relative caregiver • Non-custodial parents	http://www.aim.ca.gov/Home/default.aspx http://mcap.dhcs.ca.gov/Downloads/Handbook.aspx

Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

HOUSING			
CalWORKS Homeless Assistance	Homeless Assistance is available to CalWORKs eligible families to meet the reasonable costs of securing permanent housing, preventing eviction and for temporary shelter while seeking permanent housing. Families must meet the definition of homeless, and assistance is restricted to once in a lifetime with few exceptions.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Relative Caregiver	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/calworks/PG3658.htm
CalWORKs/Family Stabilization	Family Stabilization is a component of the CalWORKs program that provides intensive case management and services to families in crisis during the process of engagement in the Welfare-to-Work program. Services range from housing assistance to mental health treatment to transportation.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs	http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2014/14-12.pdf
Federal Housing Resources (US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development [HUD])	Mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and affordable housing. These programs include but are not limited to: Continuum of Care (CoC), Section 8, Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing, HUD Rental Program; Public Housing. Undocumented parents are eligible if they have a family member who is already a citizen or eligible immigrant.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative Caregiver • Non-custodial parent • Undocumented parent	http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states/california/renting/hawebsites
California Rent Assistance	Provides an online directory of rental assistance programs in California for low income US citizens experiencing financial hardship.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKS • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative caregiver • Non-custodial parent	http://www.rentalassistance.us/state/california
Motel Vouchers/ Reimbursement/ Rental Assistance through GA or General Relief	General Assistance or General Relief (GA/GR) Program is designed to provide relief and support to indigent adults who are not supported by their own means, other public funds, or assistance programs. Each county's GA/GR program is established and funded (100 percent) by its own Board of Supervisors. As the state is not involved in this program, benefits, payment levels, and eligibility requirements will vary among each of California's 58 counties. The type of housing assistance and support through GA/ GR varies among the counties. For example, Sta. Clara County GA has a cap of $190 per month for rental assistance paid directly to landlord or for motel reimbursement.	• Families not eligible for CalWORKS • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent • Relative caregivers	www.csac.counties.org/

Statewide Inventory of Public Benefits

TRANSPORTATION			
Family Stabilization/CalWORKs	Transportation can be included in the Welfare-to-Work or Family Stabilization Plan.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs	http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2014/14-12.pdf
Vouchers/Bus Tokens	Provision of vouchers or bus tokens by county child welfare program to support case plan activities.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative Caregiver • Non-custodial parent	county specific
CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work	California's Welfare to Work (W2W) program is designed to assist welfare recipients to obtain or prepare for employment. The welfare to work program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally by each county welfare department or its contractors. All welfare to work participants receive an orientation to the program and an appraisal of their education and employment background. Initially, most individuals receive job search services (assistance in finding a job). Additional employment-related services are provided based on an individual's education and work history. Individuals may be assigned to unpaid work experience/preparation, vocational training placements or adult education or community college programs. Program participants may be eligible for help with child care, transportation, and work-related or training-related expenses. Moreover, participants who find a job and are no longer eligible for welfare may continue to receive help with medical care and child care expenses.	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Non-custodial parent	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG141.htm
CHILD CARE			
CalWORKs Child Care	CalWORKs provides childcare through the Welfare to Work program. Active WTW participants and those transitioning off aide can receive childcare assistance when working or completing WTW activities. It promotes parental choice and ensures that families have child care that is stable enough to move off cash assistance. The program is administered by the California Department of Social Services and the California Department of Education. • Parents on CalWORKs attending approved training or working • Teens participating in Cal Learn	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative Caregiver	http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/pg78.htm
California Department of Education Child Care & Development	State & Federally funded programs that use centers and family child care home networks operated or administered by public or private agencies and local educational agencies. These agencies provide child development services for children from birth through 12 years of age and older children with exceptional	• Families eligible for CalWORKs • Families not eligible for CalWORKs	http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/

Programs	needs. The programs also provide meals and snacks, parent education, referrals to health and social services for families. • Income eligible families that have adjusted monthly income at or below 75% of state median income, adjusted for family size	• Foster youth emancipating from CWS • Relative Caregiver • Non-custodial parent	