

## How to determine eligibility for CalWorks (How to find total income for MBSAC):

Find your earned income

Subtract \$450 from every working family member

Add to unearned income (excluding SSI)

This is your total amount

**(Note: Family Members with SSI aren't counted in the family by CalWORKs)**

**EI = Earned Income**

**WFM = Working Family Member**

**EFM = Extra Family Member**

**UI = Unearned Income**

**Formula:**

**Total Income for determining Eligibility for Calworks =  $[EI - (WFM \times 450)] + UI + (EFM \times 35)$**

Based on the total amount, family members, and region, determine if they're in the MBSAC Range. If they are, they're qualified for CalWORKs.

**Note: This total income is different from the total income used to determine cash benefits amounts with MAP**

## Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care (MBSAC)

A tool used by California's Department of Social Services to determine CalWORKs eligibility.

The MBSAC is a limit that is compared to your countable income. If your family's countable income is lower than the MBSAC for a family in your situation, your family will be eligible for a CalWORKs cash benefit. The MBSAC limit depends on how many people are in your family and whether you live in Region 1 or Region 2.

Region I includes the more urban counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Monterey, Napa, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, and Ventura) where cost of living is higher, so the MBSAC is correspondingly higher. Region II includes the more rural counties (all of the ones not listed above).

**Note:** THE MBSAC limit is not your benefit amount. It is simply a tool to determine whether your family is eligible for CalWORKs.

**Minimum Basic Standard of Adequate Care (MBSAC) Levels**

Family Size	Region 1	Region 2
1	\$899	\$853
2	\$1,476	\$1,401
3	\$1,829	\$1,736
4	\$2,170	\$2,063
5	\$2,476	\$2,360
6	\$2,785	\$2,650
7	\$3,061	\$2,903
8	\$3,331	\$3,171
9	\$3,614	\$3,427
10	\$3,922	\$3,730
More than 10	Add \$35 for each extra person	Add \$35 for each extra person

## How to determine eligibility for cash benefit (How to find total income for MAP):

Find disability benefits income

Subtract \$600 from disability benefits income.

if(disability income < 600) then subtract the remainder from earned income

Ex: disability benefits income = \$180. Subtract \$600 and you're left with \$420.

Add disability benefits income to unearned income.

Find earned income

If you did not subtract from disability benefits income, subtract \$600 earned income.

Else subtract remainder of disability benefits income from earned income.

Divide earned income by 2.

This is your total income (Formula below):

(Note: +\$35 to your total income for every extra person past the 10th family member)

**DBI = Disability Benefits Income**

**EI = Earned Income**

**UI = Unearned Income**

**EFN = Extra Family Number**

Since the calculations differ depending on your DBI, there will be two equations:

1. Total Income for determining eligibility for cash benefit =  $(DBI - 600) + UI + (EI/2)$

2. Total Income for determining eligibility for cash benefit =  $UI + [EI - (600 - DBI)]/2$

Add  $(EFN * \$35)$  to the equation depending on family size

Then based on the MAP chart find your maximum grant based on region, family size and exemption status

(Note: all adults must be disabled and receiving either SSI, HSS, or Worker's Compensation for the family to receive exemption)

**Note: The amount in the chart is not the amount they actually get. Continue below chart:**

### CalWORKs Maximum Grant Levels

This table shows CalWORKs maximum possible monthly cash benefit amounts. The maximum benefit for a family depends on how many people are in the family, whether the family is [exempt](#) because all caretakers are disabled, and whether it lives in Region 1 or Region 2.

Region I includes the more urban counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Monterey, Napa, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, and Ventura) where cost of living is higher, so the maximum benefit is correspondingly higher. Region II includes the more rural counties (all of the ones not listed above).

CalWORKs Maximum Grant Amounts				
	Region 1		Region 2	
Family Size	Exempt	Non-Exempt	Exempt	Non-Exempt
1	\$809	\$734	\$770	\$695
2	\$1,039	\$930	\$987	\$884
3	\$1,314	\$1,175	\$1,248	\$1,115
4	\$1,579	\$1,416	\$1,498	\$1,346
5	\$1,850	\$1,659	\$1,758	\$1,578
6	\$2,123	\$1,902	\$2,018	\$1,808
7	\$2,395	\$2,145	\$2,274	\$2,039
8	\$2,669	\$2,389	\$2,537	\$2,271
9	\$2,939	\$2,631	\$2,791	\$2,501
10	\$3,215	\$2,876	\$3,054	\$2,731

**How to find total amount of cash benefit:**

Finally subtract your total income you used to find your grant amount in MAP by the grant amount your family qualifies for.

**TI = Total Income for determining eligibility for cash benefit**

**GA = Grant Amount (from MAP table)**

**Total Cash Benefit Amount = Grant Amount - TI**

**Sources:**

[https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income\\_support/calworks/program2.htm](https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income_support/calworks/program2.htm)

[https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income\\_support/calworks/program2b.htm](https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income_support/calworks/program2b.htm)