

## CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete items 1 - 10 on the form. Use a separate form for each policy interpretation request. If additional space is needed, please use the second page. Be sure to identify the additional discussion with the appropriate number and heading. Retain a copy of the CF 24 for your records.

- Questions from counties, including county Quality Control, must be submitted by the county CalFresh Coordinator and may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility for the county, with a copy directed to the appropriate CalFresh Policy unit manager.
- Questions from Administrative Law Judges may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility to the county where the hearing took place, with a copy of the form directed to the appropriate CalFresh Bureau unit manager.

1. RESPONSE NEEDED DUE TO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/Regulation Interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> QC <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		5. DATE OF REQUEST: 10/2/13	NEED RESPONSE BY: ASAP
2. REQUESTOR NAME: Alisa Rosas, Staff Analyst II for CalFresh Program		6. COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: San Joaquin County	
3. PHONE NO.: 209-468-2043		7. SUBJECT: INTERPRETATION OF ZERO BENEFIT CASES	
4. REGULATION CITE(S):		8. REFERENCES: <i>(Include ACL/ACIN, court cases, etc. in references)</i> NOTE: All requests must have a regulation cite(s) and/or a reference(s).  ACIN I-50-13	

9. QUESTION: (INCLUDE SCENARIO IF NEEDED FOR CLARITY):

ACIN I-50-13 states that households of three or more members entitled to no benefits in the initial month must be denied. Does it mean the entire application out right or the first month only if the household would be eligible the second month.

Examples:

1. Mom, Dad and 3 kids. Mom has UIB that ceases month of application. Dad has earnings. They are zero dollars the first month. UIB ceased so the 2nd month would increase the CF benefit amount.

2. HH of 5 applies on 10/29/13. The first month is zero due to application date. The next month goes to full allotment.

10. REQUESTOR'S PROPOSED ANSWER:

Zero benefit cases should be interpreted to be cases that are at zero benefit beyond the initial month using prospective budgeting. This interpretation would allow us to deny the 1st month but approve benefits the 2nd month. To deny the entire application and needlessly force the applicant to reapply the following month would cause a hardship on a huge population of CalFresh applicants.

11. STATE POLICY RESPONSE (CFPB USE ONLY):

Zero benefit cases should continue to be processed as before ACIN I-50-13 was issued except that the letter establishes that ongoing zero benefit cases will not be carried in California. To be clear, ongoing zero benefit cases are those in which there is a zero benefit amount for both the initial and foreseeable subsequent months.

### FOR CDSS USE

DATE RECEIVED:

DATE RESPONDED TO COUNTY/ALJ:

**CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM  
REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION (Continued)**

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