

Q9: For Food Stamps - can we put our negative response to all resources in class 225 rather than in each individual class?

A: No. Food Stamp reviews must be done to FNS 310 specs. Each resource must be answered with either a positive or negative response.

Q10: For Food Stamps - why is edit 297 back?

A: We have run cases and have not brought up the 297 edit. The edit was turned off so that the warning edit would not take up edit screen space. Send us the specific case so that we may duplicate it.

Q11: For Food Stamps - there is a total \$123.00 overissuance (CFAP) in a Food Stamp review. We are getting a fatal edit because \$18.00 is federal and \$105 is state. The \$18.00 is under \$25.00. What do we do? I hope not ignore the error!

A: Transmittal 99-07 indicates the new federal tolerance level for citing errors has been raised to \$25. As in the past, no error was cited if it was \$5 or under. Starting with 10/99 reviews, cite no over or underissuance error if it is \$25 or under. However, FNS has issued a new rule indicating that if the case is ineligible the amount is to be cited even if it is under the \$25 threshold. As for the \$18 OI, one suggestion is to develop a local form that can be easily and quickly completed and routed to the case worker's supervisor or to the county QA.

Q12: For TANF - on the definitions for child level (it could apply to adults too) it states not to add or delete from the case record if someone is found out of or into the home, yet one of the reports that Karen Crum gave us is the total people in the household. Do we want accurate data?

A: That statement is to underline the focus of collecting case record data rather than conducting a QC review of the case i. e. verifying the eligibility criteria of the case. The feds want the case data which is the record of TANF expenditures. It is beyond the scope of case data collection to include persons that should have been included or exclude persons that should have been excluded from the AU.

Q13: For TANF – T30 has a code 3 for non-needy caretaker relative for family affiliation. T48 has no appropriate code for a NNC relative and gives a fatal edit unless you use code 99. Per definitions, code 99 is for someone whose resources we count. Also which codes in T30 do we use for undocumented aliens, sanctioned individuals, and SSI persons?

A: Code 99 in T48 has been expanded to include NNR's and SSI CR's. This change will show up in version 24.

T30 undocumented aliens = code 2 or code 5 as appropriate (income or not).

T30 sanctioned individuals = code 2 or code 5 as appropriate (income or not).

T30 SSI persons = code 2.

Q14: For TANF – T4839 has no good code per definitions for a NNC relative.

A: T4839 for NNC = use code 3.

Q15: For TANF – Edit HH02 states a child must be 17 years of age or younger, yet child level definition states under the age of 18, or is 18 and enrolled as a full-time student in high school or a vocational or technical program.

A: Edit HH02 is a warning edit. It alerts the reviewer that if a person is designated as a group B (Child) and is 18 years of age, in order to be considered a child, he/she must be enrolled as a full time student, otherwise she/he is an adult, group A.

Q16: For TANF – version 22 had a code 11 for unrelated adult, child in common. Ver 23 took it out possibly due to fatal edit 0033. Why not change the edit and leave code 11 in? It makes more sense.

A: No one collects that data (i.e. will pay for collection of that data).

Q17: For TANF – T24A, what exactly does this mean? What are transitional services? T25A, same question. What are "other" amounts? T26C5, same question. Does "other non-sanction" reduction mean regionalization and non-exempt status? T27, same question. Does this include ESP re-certifications? T62, same question. What are "other work activities hours"?

A: T24A = Transitional Services Amount. This item is for non-employed families only.
T25A = Other Amount. Other county plan specified assistance not specifically addressed in state program. Check your county plan if there are any such amounts being paid. If none have been specified in the county plan, this item and item T25 can be answered "zero" (fed requirement – can not leave blank) for all cases with no further effort. It is to be reported only for non-employed families.
T26C5 Other Non Sanction. Yes. That will be added to this item definition.

T27 Waiver Eval Expr & Contrl Grps. There are no such evaluation experimental and control groups in California at this time. A notice will be sent should California engage in such activities.

T62 Other Work Activities Hrs. This data element collects information on work activities provided that are not permitted under a State waiver and are beyond the requirements of the statute (welfare reform). States may want to demonstrate their additional efforts at helping individual become self-sufficient even though these activities are not considered in the calculation of the work participation rates (extra credit). At this time, there are no such activities that the State is collecting. If in some future time there are, a notice will be sent to counties to begin collecting data on a specific (or specific set) activity. This will be added to the definition of this item.

Q18: For TANF – definitions for T34A through T34F state that only one item needs to be answered; however if the others are left blank, we get an edit.

A: The definitions for these items will be changed to state (and distributed via e-mail) “only one to be answered ‘yes’, all the rest are to be answered ‘no’”. We have received information from other states that the feds want the multiplicity of races and ethnicities, and want data that shows more than one yes for the categories listed. Additionally, a person that is a Hispanic will need to be identified by race such as Hispanic/Black, Hispanic/white, etc. This will be changed in the next version.

Q19: For TANF – T40, how do we code an undocumented alien who is pregnant?

A: T40 = No entry. This data element is applicable only for T30 code 1 individuals. This will be added to version 24 definitions.

Q20: For TANF – T42 and T75, how do we code undocumented aliens? Code 9 isn’t appropriate, as we know what their alien status is. T42 has a contradiction with code 9 and the statement below it.

A: T42 Undocumented alien adult = code 9 unknown.
T75 Undocumented alien child = code 3.
T42 Contradiction = the statement below it is an attempt to express that if this adult is in the AU (T30 code 1) then “Unknown” is an unacceptable code. The comment about “correctly or incorrectly” will be taken out of future versions.

Q21: For TANF – T73, code 1 definition differs from the actual code in T73. The definition actually makes more sense than the code.

A: Thank you.

Q22: For TANF – T47, there is not a code for a person who is registered, cooperating, not in any activity, and not looking for work. In our county, there are certain areas that there is no services available for the recipients, therefore none are required.

A: They must be coded 2.

Q23: For TANF – T4839 and T4812, why were the definitions removed in version 23?

A: The definitions were not removed; they are there.

Q24: Case does not clear edits when coded correctly. This case is a two-parent case; one parent is permanently disabled she has no income from any source. We get edit for 01 FEDT 4810. The only way to get the case to pass edits is to T48 code 19 Reg to part mtg min reg. How do we code when we get this edit?

A: Based on the description that one parent is permanently disabled this is not a two-parent case, and should be dropped as it is listed in error and not subject to data collection. A two-parent family is an AU that includes two aided nondisabled natural or adoptive parents of the same aided or SSI/SSP minor child (living in the home), unless both parents are aided minors and neither is the head of household.

Q25: We have a situation where the family applied in October, 1999 and were approved for October, 1999; however aid wasn't authorized until 11/4/99 and issued 11/5/99 for both October and November. Is this a new applicant or not?

A: Yes, this is a new applicant case. The report month is the first month in which the family received assistance; there is a new application for the report month, and benefits were issued for that month.

Q26: We received edit w0116 - If item 26Ai- is greater than zero, items 26Aii thru item 26vii must be coded '1' or '2'. What does this mean?

A: This federal edit will be adjusted to conform with the CalWORKs Profile item numbers. The items mentioned in the edit are the Items in the federal TANF Data Report (TDR), and items 26A2 through T26C5A in the CalWORKs Profile match them to some extent. CalWORKs item 26, which is not visible in the profile, matches 26Ai. 26Ai is the total dollar amount of any sanctions and recoupments (26ii thru 26vii). Because state program wanted specific dollar amounts for each sanction and recoupment, CalWorks Profile items like T26A2A, T26A5A1, T26A5B, etc.

were developed and the QDS software is programmed to sum up the amount in item 26 which is equivalent to 26Ai. The edit is indicating that if there is a total dollar amount for a sanction or recoupment, then the listed sanctions or recoupments must be coded a 1 (Yes) or 2 (No).

Q27: Do we enter the Absent Parents on the facesheet?

A: No, do not enter the absent parent unless your county is in the Noncustodial Parent Demonstration Project.

Q28: What info do we need to get on Non Custodial Parents if we are not part of the pilot?

A: None. If you are not part of California's NCP demo, you have no NCP's in your caseload.

Q29: The AU applied in 10/99 therefore T44 = '0'. Persons 01 and 02 are both in the AU therefore T30 must be 1. This gives us the edits 0044 and 0045 for each person. How do we fix this?

A: The edit as written is correct in that an entry of zero or greater is acceptable; however, a programming omission does not recognize zero as valid. A bulletin was issued providing instructions on how to clear the edit until the next software update is released.

Q30: In T67B (Was this child born on aid?) the definition says enter code to indicate if this child was born on CalWORKs that is on or after 12/1/96. This is the date for TANF and not for CalWORKs, please clarify.

A: CalWORKs was implemented in 1/1/98 and prior to that was TANF. The definition will be changed to indicate TANF.