

**CalWORKs and FOOD STAMP DATA SYSTEMS DESIGN
TASKFORCE
Systems Maintenance Unit (SMU)**

TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 00-07 (FS)

June 15, 2000

**TO: All Performance Measurement Counties and Field
Operations Bureau Staff**

SUBJECT/PURPOSE: Categorical Eligibility Policy

RELATED REFERENCE: M.S. 63-301.7; FNS Handbook 310 Section 130

SUPERSEDES: None

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Receipt

BACKGROUND:

Discussions with quality control (QC) staff have revealed that there is some confusion regarding the impact of categorical eligibility (CE) on Food Stamp case reviews. This transmittal, based upon discussions with Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) QC staff, provides review instructions for CE cases.

INSTRUCTIONS:

The determination as to whether or not the household is fulfilling the regulatory requirements to retain CE status (monthly reporting, work requirements, etc.; see M.S. 63-301.731-.734) is not subject to QC review.

The only criterion that must be met by the household to be categorically eligible at the time of the QC review is that all Federally eligible household members receive or are authorized to receive CalWORKs or General Assistance in the sample month. When all Federally eligible household members meet this requirement, the household is CE.

NOTE: Household members who receive or are authorized to receive benefits from the Separate State (two-parent) Program meet the CE requirement; California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) participants are not categorically eligible (even if they receive CalWORKs) because they are ineligible for Federal Food Stamp benefits.

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Original Signed By Joeana Carpenter

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