

General Relief (GR) Overview Updates

Presentation for Social
Services Advisory Board (SSAB)

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Eligibility Operations

Overview

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Description

Temporary cash assistance for eligible County residents who are not supported by resources such as other state or federal programs, family members or other organizations. Aid received must be repaid. Job Training hours may count toward repayment of GR paid.

Authority

- Welfare & Institutions Code Sections 17000-17410
- San Diego County Administrative Code Article XV-C
- Board Letters
 - Article XV-C added to Administrative Code by Ordinance Number 8835, effective November 6, 1997
 - Amendments to Article XV-C implemented March 2, 2002 [3/12/02 (07)]
 - Last letter was adopted September 11, 2011 and sunsets December 31, 2016 [9/13/11 (11)]

Funding

GR is 100% County-funded through the General Fund, though State-mandated.

Eligibility Requirements

- Resident of San Diego County for at least 15 days and intend to remain in San Diego County
- Valid Identification
- Age 18 through 64, with some rare exceptions
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident alien
- SSN
- Fingerprinting/Photograph
- Sponsor's income and resources are counted for the first 3 years in the United States

Eligibility Requirements (Cont)

- Cannot have an outstanding felony, probation/parole, misdemeanor warrant
- A convicted drug felon who was determined ineligible to CalWORKs due to drug felony is not eligible
- No sanctions from another aid program
- Not a resident of a County-funded facility
- GR Alcohol and Drug Services (GRADS) is required for all referred individuals
- Complete a monthly report

Eligibility Requirements (Cont)

- Must sign a lien against any current/future property
- Income must be below \$274/month
- Property
 - \$1000 Total Property Limit
 - \$250 Personal Effects Limit
 - \$5 Liquid Assets Limit
 - Vehicle valued up to \$1,500 (amount between \$1000 and \$1,500 excluded)
 - No Real Property
 - 1 Burial Arrangement per person

Application

- Application made in person at the following Family Resource Centers:
 - Oceanside
 - Downtown San Diego
 - El Cajon
 - Chula Vista

Redetermination

- The redetermination is completed every 6 or 12 months
 - Employable with Limitations (EL) is certified for 6 months
 - Incapacitated and Interim Assistance is certified for 12 months

Assistance Standards (GR Grant)

No. of People Receiving GR	Grant
1	\$274
2	\$367*

*Grant level for a married couple is \$367 in any living arrangement.

Assistance Standards (Single in Shared Housing)

No. of People in Household	Grant
2	\$232
3	\$219
4 or more	\$205

Components

- Interim Assistance Program (IAP)
 - Appears to meet eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Must cooperate with SSI Advocate
 - 12-month certification period
- Incapacitated Program (IP)
 - Receives disability-based income
 - 12-month certification period
- Employable with Limitations (EL)
 - Medical documentation that an impairment restricts the ability to perform one or more life function
 - 6-month certification

Components (continued)

- Able-Bodied
 - All other recipients
 - May receive benefits for 3 months in a 12-month period
 - Must complete 80 hours of Work Project
 - Work Project is assigned at a FRC or Community-Based Organization
 - Work performed is usually clerical or janitorial
 - Each 8 hours of Work Project completed pays back 1/10 of the GR grant for the month
 - 20 Separate Job applications must be completed each month
 - Work Project and Job Searches are monitored by CalFresh Employment & Training Social Workers

SSI Advocacy

- Contract with Legal Aid Society of San Diego (Legal Aid) to provide advocacy services for those individuals who appear to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Assists with the application and any appeals that may be necessary to obtain SSI

Repayment

- Interim Assistance Reimbursement
 - County is notified when SSI is going to be approved
 - Office of Revenue & Recovery (ORR) submits a claim based on the aid paid
 - Social Security issues money to the County based on the claim
- Work Project
 - If the recipient works the full 80 hours each month, the grant for that month is repaid
 - Any other program or non-cooperation does not repay the County
- Lien
 - All other former recipients are sent a bill from ORR to repay the County
 - Lien is removed when the entire amount of aid has been repaid

Thank you

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