

CalWORKs Family Homeless Assistance Los Angeles County

What is the CalWORKs Homeless Assistance Program and who can participate?

The CalWORKs Homeless Assistance Programs provide benefits to assist eligible families who are experiencing homelessness by offering temporary and permanent housing assistance. Homelessness is defined as lacking a fixed or regular nighttime residence; and either:

- residing in a shelter; or
- residing in a place not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation (i.e. vehicle or street)

What type of assistance can I access?

Temporary Homeless Assistance (HA)

Helps families eligible or approved for CalWORKs to obtain up to 16 days of temporary housing by providing:

- \$85 per day for a family of 4 members or less
- an additional \$15 for each family member for families who have more than 4 members (up to \$145 per day)
 - **Benefits are issued in amounts equal to 7 days or less on a Electronic Benefits Transfer card**
 - **The 16 days of assistance can be requested and received at anytime within a 12-month period; it does not have to be requested and received all at once**

Permanent Homeless Assistance (HA)

Helps CalWORKs approved families to secure permanent housing where the monthly rent does not exceed 80% of the family's total monthly household income:

- Up to two times the monthly rent to pay for security deposit costs; and
- Assistance with utility deposits (turn-on fees) for gas, electricity, and/or water

Temporary and/or Permanent HA are available every 12 months, with exceptions. Families who previously received HA, may be eligible to receive the same benefits again within the same 12-month period, if the family is homeless or displaced due to: a disaster (e.g., COVID-19), domestic violence, uninhabitability of their residence, or a physical or mental illness.

Where and how can I use the assistance I choose?

Temporary Homeless Assistance (HA)

Temporary HA can be used to pay for:

- Stays in hotels or motels;
- Stays in a shelter; and
- Persons (including family or friends) or establishments with whom your family has signed a valid short-term lease, sublease, or shared housing agreement

Permanent Homeless Assistance (HA)

Permanent HA can be used to rent from:

- Any person (including family or friends) with whom the family has executed a valid long-term lease, sub-lease, or shared housing agreement; or
- An establishment, such as a rental management company

How can I access these programs?

CalWORKs Homeless Assistance is administered by the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS).

- For families who are not enrolled at the FSC, contact DPSS' Customer Service Center at (866) 613-3777 to learn more and apply for assistance.
- For Families accessing resources at the Family Solution Center (FSC), DPSS staff are available at the FSC to assist families with CalWORKs Homeless Assistance.