



California's protection and advocacy system

www.disabilityrightsca.org

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6 Fact Sheet on California's Budget Cuts to Benefits Programs – August 13, 2009

Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) grant level cuts

CAPI Program Continues to Exist; Grant Levels Reduced

The budget that has passed retains the CAPI program. However, there are reductions to the monthly maximum grant level amounts.

Why Was the CAPI Grant Level Reduced?

The CAPI grant levels are linked to the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program (SSI/SSP) grant levels. Because the SSI/SSP grant levels were lowered for the third time this year,¹ the CAPI grant level was also lowered.

How Much Will the CAPI Maximum Monthly Grant Levels Be?

The monthly grant levels for CAPI differ based on whether you are individual or a married couple.

¹ Effective October 1, 2009, the maximum SSI/SSP grant level for an individual will be \$845 per month. Effective October 1, 2009, the maximum SSI/SSP grant level for couples will be \$1,407 per month. See flier entitled, "SSI Benefits are Being Cut Again," which is available at www.disabilityrightsca.org.

- Effective October 1, 2009, the monthly CAPI maximum grant level for an individual will be \$835 per month. This is because, under existing law, the maximum monthly CAPI grant level for an individual is \$10 less than the SSI/SSP monthly maximum.²
- Effective October 1, 2009, the monthly CAPI maximum grant level for a married couple will be \$1,387 per month. This is because, under existing law, the maximum monthly CAPI grant level for a married couple is \$20 less than the SSI/SSP monthly maximum.³

Will I Get a Cost of Living Adjustment In the Future?

You will only get a Cost of Living Adjustment in CAPI if there is a cost of living adjustment for SSI/SSP. In the past, because the SSI/SSP program had automatic cost of living adjustments, the CAPI program did, too. In the future, only the federal cost of living adjustment, not the state cost of living adjustment, will be automatic in SSI/SSP. See *SSI Benefits are Being Cut Again*, available at www.disabilityrightsca.org for more information about SSI/SSP.

² California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) section 49-050.11.

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/getinfo/pdf/eas16.PDF>

³ CDSS MPP section 49-050.12.

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/getinfo/pdf/eas16.PDF>