

September 17, 2021

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 - ERRATA**

The purpose of this Erratum is to clarify the guidance in the All County Welfare Department Letter (ACWDL) dated [September 3, 2021](#) regarding the eligibility of Humanitarian Parolees from Afghanistan (HPA) based on the duration period of parole.



KIM JOHNSON  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
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GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

September 17, 2021

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER (ACWDL)

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ERRATA TO ACWDL DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 REGARDING  
ELIGIBILITY OF HUMANITARIAN PAROLEES FROM  
AFGHANISTAN

REFERENCE: [8 UNITED STATES \(U.S.\) CODE 1622 \(a\)](#), [TITLE 7 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS § 273.4\(a\)\(6\)](#), AND [ACWDL DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 2021](#)

The ACWDL dated [September 3, 2021](#) did not clearly explain the eligibility of Humanitarian Parolees from Afghanistan (HPA) for California Work Opportunity to Kids (CalWORKs), Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), Supplemental Support Income/ State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (CalFresh), and California Food Assistance Program (CFAP). This letter provides additional clarifications and corrections to County Welfare Departments regarding HPA eligibility.

**Paroled for at Least One Year**

The ACWDL references humanitarian parolees who are paroled for at least one year under the eligibility sections for CalWORKs, CAPI, SSI/SSP, CalFresh and CFAP as well as in the ACWDL's attached table entitled "Immigration Status and Eligibility Overview for Afghan Arrivals to California." To clarify, "paroled for at least one year" refers to the duration period listed on a parolee's entry documentation and not the length of time the parolee has resided in the U.S. Therefore, an HPA may be a qualified non-citizen from the day they are paroled into the United States if their duration of parole is listed as at least one year on their entry document.

As a reminder, HPAs paroled for any length of time, whether less than or at least a year, are eligible for CalWORKs benefits under MPP 42-431.221(c).

### **Afghan Placement Assistance Program**

The fifth paragraph on page two of the ACWDL states: *“Humanitarian Parolee from Afghanistan (HPA) Eligibility. Although HPAs have already entered into the U.S., they will be resettled in the same manner as refugees arriving from overseas and receive similar Reception and Placement (R&P) services. HPAs may be eligible for the Afghan Parolee Services (APS) program under the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.”*

The Afghan Parolee Services program under the DOS is now officially known as the Afghan Placement Assistance (APA) Program. There are no changes to the timeframes or services provided by the local [California Resettlement Agencies](#) under the newly named APA Program.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the refugee program information in this letter, contact the Refugee Programs Bureau at (916) 654-4356 or [RPB@dss.ca.gov](mailto:RPB@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By:***

ELIANA KAIMOWITZ, Chief  
Immigrant Integration Branch  
Office of Equity