

## SOLVING PROBLEMS

- Proof you must have:
  - √ Motel receipts
  - √ That you are looking for housing (if homeless)
  - √ A rental agreement for permanent housing (a written agreement, county contact with landlord, signed statement, etc.)
  - √ A "pay rent" notice to get eviction prevention money.
- If denied eviction/homeless help, ask for a hearing and try to work this out with a supervisor.
- You may have housing rights! Ask for LSNC's 3 day notice brochure and eviction information.

Call the state hearing office, 800-952-5253, and tell them you need an "expedited hearing." This will get you a hearing faster.

Need help?  
Call **Legal Services:**

Prepared by  
Legal Services of Northern California  
[www.lsnrc.net](http://www.lsnrc.net)

## Public Assistance

*Making it Work for You*

# Eviction Prevention — Homeless Benefits



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# HOUSING MONEY

## EViction PREVENTION

Do you owe your landlord for rent? Have you gotten a "Pay Rent or Quit" notice (to be evicted if you don't pay back rent)? If so, you may be able to get money from CalWORKs to pay what you owe.

- Your rent must be under 80% of the total household monthly income
- You can get up to two month's rent
- You must have a "pay rent" notice



## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

Homeless families/pregnant women can get:

- **\$65/day for a motel** (if more than 4 people, an extra \$15/per person, up to \$125/day) for up to **16 days** if you:
  - ✓ Verify you are homeless (agree to be investigated or sign a statement)
  - ✓ Look for permanent housing.

Once you start getting temporary shelter payments, the 16 days starts running. If you "skip" a day, you do not get extra time.

**Move-in Costs:** last month's rent, security, utility, & cleaning deposits.

- ✓ You must prove you found a place to rent (commercial landlords only).
- ✓ Your share of the rent must be below 80% of your household income.
- ✓ You must turn in a rental agreement.



## ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Normally, you get eviction prevention or homeless housing funds only once in your life. (You can get both temporary and permanent homeless aid, but only once.) *There are exceptions!*

- Whenever there is a State or federal declaration of natural disaster
- If the children got housing aid, but the adult caretaker hasn't before.
- No more than once every *12 months* if the homelessness is because of:
  - ◆ Domestic violence
  - ◆ Fire, natural catastrophe, condemnation, or other issue beyond the household's control
  - ◆ Physical or mental impairment (not stress, drugs or alcohol related)



## TO QUALIFY...

You must seem eligible for CalWORKs based on your application or be on aid.

- ✓ Pregnant women applicants with no other children must verify the pregnancy.
- ✓ Non-U.S. citizens applicants must prove their immigration status.
- ✓ You must have less than \$100 in resources (not counting restricted accounts)
- ✓ You must have an eviction notice for not paying rent *or* be homeless. (Includes staying at shelters, in cars, on the street, or with someone on an emergency basis.)
- ✓ Have not gotten CalWORKs Homeless Assistance before, or you meet a "Once in a Lifetime" exception.

## HOW FAST CAN I GET HELP?

The county must tell you whether you qualify or are being denied temporary shelter *the day you ask for help*.



- If you are eligible for temporary shelter, the county must pay you the day you ask for help *or* pay by the next day if they arrange for you to have a place to stay.
- If you are going to be homeless on the weekend or during a holiday, the county must arrange or pay for shelter before the end of the last working day before the weekend or holiday.
- If you are an applicant, the county must pay *or* deny you within one day of finding you eligible for CalWORKs.
- If you are a recipient, the county must pay *or* deny you within one day of confirming a rental agreement for less than 80% of your maximum grant.



## SUDDEN AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If you are not eligible for Homeless Assistance, you may be able to get a housing "special need" payment for sudden and unusual situations beyond your control. *Tell your worker to see regulation MPP 44-211.44.*