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Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

April 11, 2023

TO: CalFresh Healthy Living Local Health Department Project Directors

SUBJECT: PROGRAM LETTER PL 23-01
UPDATED WORKSITE QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

This Program Letter serves as notification of an update to the worksite qualification criteria for the Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention Branch (NEOPB) programs providing services in worksites implemented with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - Education (SNAP-Ed), also known as the CalFresh Healthy Living program.

California has received approval for an alternate qualifying formula for the hourly wage, rather than a static dollar amount. This means that when new Federal Poverty Level and California SNAP-Ed household size data become available, CDPH NEOPB can recalculate the qualifying wage.

For Federal Fiscal Year 2023 and until further notice, the eligible worksite wage maximum is \$20.48 per hour, effective immediately. A worksite qualifies for participation in programs providing services in worksites if 50 percent or more of its employees are paid an hourly wage less than or equal to \$20.48. As with current practices, worksites are required to complete a form verifying the site's eligibility.

Worksites can still qualify if 50 percent or more of the total employee population at the worksite report that they have household members who participate in CalFresh or other means-tested programs that have similar income criteria to SNAP-Ed. This is done through an employee survey.

A minimum worksite size was established in order to maximize impact and reach. Historically, businesses needed a minimum of 25 full-time employees or a minimum of 35 full- and part-time employees to qualify for worksite services.

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However, we understand this can be a barrier, especially in rural parts of the state, so we encourage you to contact your NEOPB assigned Project Officer if you seek to provide services to smaller worksites.

For reference, the updated qualification form is attached.

Should you have any questions regarding this change, please contact your assigned Project Officer.

Sincerely,

Erica Eilenberg, MPH, RD
Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch Chief
Center for Healthy Communities

Attachment: Updated qualification form and survey for SNAP-Ed worksite services.