



Colorado Works Change Coming: New First-Level Sanction Amount

Who: All Individuals Who Participate in Colorado Works Workforce Development

What: New First-Level Sanction Amount

Starting in June 2023, the Colorado Works (CW) Workforce Development (WD) first-level sanction amount will change from a 25% reduction in the Basic Cash Assistance (BCA) grant to \$1.00. Second and third-level sanction amounts and percentages will remain the same, and a fourth-level sanction will result in a case closure for one month.



Sanction Level	Penalty Period	OLD Benefit Reduction	NEW Benefit Reduction
First-level	One month	25%	\$1.00
Second-level	One month	25%	25%
Third-level	One month	25%	25%
Fourth-level	Case closure	100%	100%

Note: It is important to urge clients to engage in the program regardless of the sanction level or benefit reduction.





Colorado Works Change Coming: New First-Level Sanction Amount (continued)

Why: House Bill 22-1259

On June 3, 2022 the Colorado State Legislature passed [House Bill 2022-1259](#) (HB 22-1259), also known as the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families bill. This act made several changes to the Colorado Works program, including reducing first-level sanctions to \$1.00.

How: Look for the following changes in Colorado Benefits Management System:

- **Wrap-Up Screen**
The Wrap-Up screen will display a difference in the reduction amounts.
- **Notice of Action**
A new notice of action letter and reason code will be triggered for cases with a first-level sanction.

⚠ Your Cash Assistance benefits have changed.
Your Colorado Works benefits are changing due to sanctions for the following individuals:

✘ {sanctionLevel} Sanction for {sanctionIndividual}

Your household benefits will be reduced by \$1.00 for one (1) month. Starting {DateSanctionStart}, your household will get {CWBenefitAmount}.

Who this benefit is for
✓ These people qualify for this benefit: {qualifiedIndvNames}

More about your Cash Assistance benefits

- You didn't complete at least one (1) of the steps that you told your case manager/coach you would do or that you said you would do in your Individualized Plan (IP).
- You also haven't given good cause.
- You need to contact your case manager/coach as soon as possible to find out what you need to do to cure, and then serve this sanction.
- If you don't correct this problem, your case may close or remain closed, and your household won't be able to get benefits.

Note:

- These changes only apply to the CW program and will not impact other high-level program areas.
- The [CW Re-engagement process and flow](#) remain the same.

When: These changes will go into effect June 1, 2023.

