

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

*Possible Cost Reductions to the
General Assistance (GA) Program*



COUNTY OF MONTEREY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Working Together for Our Community

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Board of Supervisor's Meeting, August 18, 2026

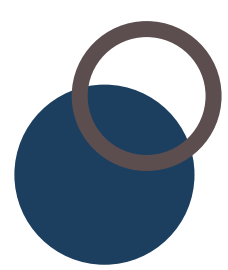
OVERVIEW

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

- Aid Payments
- Proposed Cost Saving Measures
- Recommendations



County of Monterey
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

MONTEREY COUNTY AID - \$1.8 Million

Monterey County's aid payments for the Fiscal Year 2024-25. The table below breaks down the payments by type of General Assistance Received.

Total Aid Payments	Amount
Temporarily Disabled	\$725,000
Permanently Disabled	\$729,000
Employable IE: Worked at Sites	\$190,000
Job Search	\$105,000
Other (Assistance Program, Time-Expired Refugee, Time-Expired Refugee Interim Assistance, CAPI, & Student/ESL)	\$54,000



TEMPORARY DISABLED RECIPIENTS

NO TIME LIMIT

Temporarily disabled individuals:

- Received \$725,000 in aid during the review period,
- This aid was approximately 40% of the GA aid given,
- Received aid in excess of 6 months 59% of the time,
- Receive the maximum aid payment of \$340/month majority of the time

Maximum Aid Payment	Total Cases	Cases Recieving Aid >6M
\$340	296	174

Length of Aid	Cases Receiving Aid	Expenditure
Customers > 6M	174	\$573,350

REDUCING TIME LIMIT OPTION

TEMPORARY DISABLED RECIPIENTS

Implement a **6-month annual time limit** option would:

- Provide savings of roughly \$229,340,
- Reduce benefits to 6 out of a 12-month period.

Maximum Aid Payment	Total Cases	Cases Recieving Aid >6M
\$340	296	174

Savings
\$229,340

Length of Aid	Cases Receiving Aid	Expenditure
Customers > 6M	174	\$573,350
If Same Customers Received 6M of Aid Maximum	174	\$344,010



REDUCING TIME LIMIT OPTION

EMPLOYABLE / JOB SEARCH

Implement a **3-month annual time limit** option would:

- Provide savings of roughly \$64,355,
- Reduce benefits to 3 out of a 12-month period,
- Align with majority of counties in California,
- Allow more customers to gain work experience, as the number of available slots for employable customers would increase.

Total Cases	Total Cases Receiving > 3 Months
288	105

Total Current Expenditures	Current Expenditure for Customers Receiving > 3 Months	Expenditure for Same Customers if they Received 3 Months	
\$294,139	\$160,887	\$96,532	Savings \$64,355



GRANT REDUCTION OPTIONS

Current grant aid amount is \$340

Implementing a grant reduction option would:

- Impact grant recipients financially, and
- Allow flexibility in combining this reduction with a program time-limit reduction.

Grant Reduction	Revised Grant Aid Payment	Savings
\$12	\$328	\$ 58,929
\$50	\$290	\$245,536
\$62	\$278	\$304,465



COUNTY COMPARISONS

The charts below pertain to:

- Employable: meaning they are assigned work hours at our local sites, or
- Job Search: meaning they are employable, but for various reasons are unable to work at a work site.

Comparison & Non-Comparison Counties

County	Max Grant Amount	Months Allowed (Employable/Job Search)
Alameda	\$336	3
Contra Costa	\$336	3
Monterey	\$340	6
Santa Clara	\$343	Indefinite
San Luis Obispo	\$355	3
San Benito	\$364	3
Sonoma	\$415	3
Santa Cruz	\$640	Indefinite
San Mateo	\$732	Indefinite

County	Max Grant Amount	Months Allowed (Employable/Job Search)
Los Angeles	\$221	9
Fresno	\$245	3
Amador	\$331	3
Calaveras	unknown	3
Humboldt	\$303	3
Placer	\$326	3
San Diego	\$589	3





RECOMMENDATIONS

OPTION A: Implement a 6-month annual time limit for Temporary Disabled, and a 3-month annual time limit for non-disabled, employable recipients for a savings of \$309,892; or

OPTION B: Implement a 3-month annual time limit for non-disabled, employable recipients, and a \$50 grant reduction (from \$340 to \$290), for a savings of \$309,891; or

OPTION C: Implement a 6-month annual time limit for Temporary Disabled, and a \$12 grant reduction (from \$340 to \$328), for a savings of \$304,466; or

OPTION D: Implement a \$62 grant reduction, (from \$340 to \$278) not recommended; or

OPTION E: No modification to the program and the General Fund covers the approximate shortfall of \$300,000.



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QUESTIONS?



<http://countyofmonterey.gov/dss>



THANK YOU