



# General Assistance

*An Employment Focused Program*

Contra Costa County  
Aging & Adult Services

A Bureau of the Employment & Human Services Department

# General Assistance

## An Employment Focused Program

Every county in California is required to provide relief and support to all residents who are not supported by their own means, friends or relatives, other public funds, or other assistance programs.

Each county's Board of Supervisors establishes its program. Each program's eligibility requirements and grant amounts are different. In Contra Costa County the program is "General Assistance."

Contra Costa County's General Assistance program is a short-term program.

Individuals who can work may receive General Assistance for no longer than three months in a 12-month period.



### How General Assistance works

Any resident of Contra Costa County may apply for General Assistance.

You do not need to have a fixed address to be eligible, but proof of legal residence may be required. You must have lived in the county for at least 15 days.

### Who may be eligible?

- Unemployed residents who need help finding employment
- Residents who are not eligible for other support
- Residents whose earnings are less than the maximum allowable grant

*NOTE: If you receive Social Security Insurance (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Unemployment Insurance Benefits (UIB), you may not be eligible.*

### What verifications will I need to provide?

- Identification
- Social Security number (or SS number application)
- Immigration/citizenship status
- Income and application for other sources of income, such as proof of application for Unemployment Benefits, if applicable
- Bank account statements showing application month
- Property (such as vehicles or real estate)
- Medical verification of incapacity if you are unable to work
- County residence, proof of 15-day residency



## What are the grant amounts?

Grant amounts vary according to the number of people in the household, income, and the employability status of the recipient.

A Special Need Allowance is available for recipients who are placed in Board and Care facilities by Adult Protective Services.

# EHSD Services

## Homeless and Housing Assistance

If you are unhoused, a worker may be able to help you obtain a shelter bed.

Housing Assistance may be authorized for persons who locate permanent housing and need help with a deposit.

Recipients may get their rent paid to their landlord up to the maximum grant, if eligible.

## SSI and Special Needs

Special Need Allowances are available for recipients with verified need for special diet, transportation for medical appointments, and employment related services.

Get assistance in applying for Social Security Insurance (SSI) benefits.

## CalFresh & Medi-Cal

Our GA staff members can help with other essential services.

## How much property or income may I have?

Some property is not counted:

- The home you live in
- One motor vehicle (not valued more than \$4,500)
- Equipment, personal jewelry
- Money in a bank account held to pay property taxes
- Money available that is less than \$50



During your GA application process, our staff will guide you through the CalFresh application to ensure you have access to food assistance and to assist with the Medi-Cal application process for your health care needs.

## Employment-related Services

- East Bay Works referrals.
- Job Related clothing and supplies may be available.

## Information & Assistance (I&A)

- Adult literacy programs.
- Rehabilitation services.
- Substance abuse programs and treatment referrals.
- Mental Health Resources.
- Call 1 (800) 510-2020 to speak to an I&A representative for more information.



To apply for General Assistance or to request information, you do not need an appointment. Visit the office closest to you:

**West County**

1305 MacDonald Ave. 3rd Floor, Richmond, CA 94801

**Central County**

400 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

**East County**

4545 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch, CA 94509

**Online:** [benefitscal.com](https://benefitscal.com)

**To apply by phone:** (866) 663-3225 or (925) 655-0990 (Eng/Span)

**Mail completed application:**

Central Mail Unit

Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services

PO Box 4114

Concord, CA 94524-9700

**For more General Assistance information,  
visit <https://bit.ly/46nww1x>.**

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

*Building Brighter Futures Together*