

Financial reassessment



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LAO will not conduct financial reassessments on a regular and routine basis where there are no factors which would warrant a review of the individual's financial eligibility. Financial reassessments may be conducted where one or more of the following circumstances exist:

- The individual is requesting a change of lawyer regarding current legal aid services
- The individual is seeking trial authorization in a family law proceeding
- There has been a partial monetary settlement during the course of a family law proceeding
- The individual has been ordered to pay support or is now in receipt of support pursuant to a court order or agreement in a family law proceeding
- The individual has been released on bail or from custody
- The individual's roster member advises LAO that their financial circumstances have changed
- The individual's charges involved large-scale drug trafficking or fraud over \$5,000
- LAO is made aware that the individual has had, or expects to have, a change in financial circumstances
- The individual is re-applying for legal aid services after being previously refused on financial grounds on a prior matter
- The individual has been determined to be financially ineligible for legal aid services and has made an application for review of that determination
- The individual has been determined to be financially ineligible by LAO's Eligibility Review Office and seeks a reconsideration of a financial refusal
- The individual or person responsible for the individual contacts LAO and indicates a substantive change in income or family size or available assets
- The individual received legal aid services under emergency or urgent circumstances and the urgency has subsided

Verification of financial information

In conducting a reassessment, LAO may consider any information that it considers reliable and relevant. An individual may be required to provide verification of financial information for the purposes of completing their financial assessment.

LAO will have regard to an individual's ability to obtain verification of income or assets given the specific circumstances of the case.

Where an individual seeking legal aid services is asked to provide specific financial information for the purposes of completing their financial reassessment and does not do so, they will be deemed to have failed to meet eligibility requirements.