



## ACCESS CENTER FEE WAIVER A-Z

### THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE FILING A FEE WAIVER REQUEST IN SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

**Q: I want to file a case with the Superior Court in San Francisco County, where can I go to see if there are fees associated with my type of case?**

**A:** Visit <https://www.sfsuperiorcourt.org/forms-filing/fees> for the most up to date fee schedule for new and ongoing cases in San Francisco County.

**Q: I've filed a similar case in another county in California, are the court and filing fees in San Francisco County the same as other counties?**

**A:** It is best practice to review each individual local county's court website and fee schedule *before* beginning a case to ensure that you have the most accurate information related to your case type.

**Q: I am looking at the court fee schedule for San Francisco County and there are fees associated with my case type. Can I ask the court to waive my fees?**

**A:** It depends. Generally, most case types require a filing fee and/or other related court fees (for example, court reporter fee, copy fee, transcript fee, etc.). However, if you cannot afford the associated fees, you may file a fee waiver request to ask the court to waive the fees related to your case.

**Q: How do I qualify for a Fee Waiver?**

**A:** In general, there are 3 ways to qualify for a fee waiver:

1. You currently receive public benefits; **OR**
2. Your household income, *before taxes*, is less than the amounts listed on item 5b of the *Request to Waive Court Fees* form FW-001; **OR**
3. Your household income exceeds the specific amount listed in item 5b on form FW-001, but the court finds that you do not have enough income to pay for your household's basic needs AND the associated court fees.

**Q: Does the public benefit I currently receive allow me to qualify for a fee waiver?**

**A:** Certain *needs based* public benefits, that are dependent on your income and/or household size, will qualify you for a fee waiver. They include: Medi-Cal, Food Stamps (CalFresh), Cal-Works, General Assistance, SSI, SSP, Tribal TANF, IHHS or CAPI.

These public benefits are listed on form FW-001, item 5a.

<p><b>5</b> Why are you asking the court to waive your court fees?</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I receive (check all that apply; see form FW-001-INFO for definitions): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Supp. Sec. Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> SSP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medi-Cal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Relief/Gen. Assist. <input type="checkbox"/> IHSS <input type="checkbox"/> CalWORKS or Tribal TANF <input type="checkbox"/> CAPI</p>
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