

# The 411



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## From the Office

Effective January 1, 2019, the minimal wage in California is \$12.00 per hour. To receive 100% of your escrow credit, you must be “suitably employed” on the last day of your FSS contract. **“Suitable employment”** is defined as earning the equivalent of someone working thirty-two hours a week at the prevailing minimal wage.

Prior to January 2019, suitable employment was comparable to earning \$352 or more a week. Effective

January 1, 2019, suitable employment is comparable to earning \$384 or more a week. This applies to self-employment as well.

As a reminder, there are three criteria that a FSS participant must meet on the **last day of their FSS contract** or graduation date: (1) Suitable employed, (2) TANF-free (welfare) for twelve consecutive months prior to contract end date and (3) meet all of the ITSP goals.

## New Year's Plan: Get a new/better job

<https://www.themuse.com/advice/your-new-years-goal-get-a-new-job>

**Step 1:** Get your resume ready.

**Step 2:** Create a professional social media.

**Step 3:** Enlist your support.

**Step 4:** Network.

**Step 5:** Find the right/better jobs.

**Step 6:** Rock your interviews.

**Step 7:** Do not give up!



Photo by Darvin Atkeson CC BY

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.

-Edith Lovejoy Peirce

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

1. Stay healthier at work.
2. Learn a new skill.
3. Read a career or motivational book.
4. Update your resume.
5. Increase your network contacts.
6. Review your social media profiles.
7. Sign up for one relevant blog.
8. Clean your files.
9. Find a work mentor.

For more info, visit

<https://www.livecareer.com/career/advice/jobs/networking-guide>

For more information about the FSS program, contact Bow Lee at 530-895-4474 extension 234.



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## Career Goals for 2019

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/careers/2018/12/31/new-years-resolutions-your-career-how-find-success-work/2413763002/>

**Put yourself out there:** Consider joining a group or meeting up with like-minded peers and learn about opportunities for career growth in your community.

**Learn something new:** Take the opportunity to pick up new skills.

**Become an expert :** Familiarize yourself with your organization's mission, vision and goals, and you will become a stronger employee.

**Don't be afraid to fail:** Be willing to take some risks in your career. Without stretching yourself, you will never fully succeed.



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**Be patient :** Having aspirations is important. But keep in mind that success doesn't happen overnight.

**Become financially savvy:** Learn more about how you can take advantage of the benefits offered by your company, and prepare for retirement.

**Refresh your online presence:** Review your online profile(s) with a critical eye and remove anything that you wouldn't want your current or future employers to see.

**Give yourself a break:** Taking time now to schedule a vacation for later in the year gives you something to look forward to. Taking time off is important because it helps avoid burn-out.

**Commit to your goal:** Whether your goal for 2019 involves learning something new, taking on a new project or asking for a promotion, do the work required to make it happen. Ninety-two percent of people fail to keep their New Year's resolutions. Don't be one of them.

Final Deadline to submit 2018 taxes:  
**Mon. Apr. 15, 2019**

**Information or Questions:**  
Dial 211

**No-Cost Tax-Prep Services**

**DURHAM**  
Public Library  
2545 Durham  
Dayton Highway

**OROVILLE**  
Public Library  
1820 Mitchell Ave

**African American Family & Cultural Center**  
1820 Mitchell Ave

**CHICO**  
BMU/Chico State  
400 1st West St

**Dorothy Johnson Center**  
775 E 16th St  
Hablar Espanol

**C.A.R.D.**  
5454 Vallombrosa