



Children and Adults Health Programs Group

November 5, 2013

Toby Douglas
Director
State of California, Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Avenue, 6th Floor, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Toby Douglas:

This letter is to confirm that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has received and reviewed the California MAGI-based eligibility verification plan. Based on our review, this plan appears to be in accordance with the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) final verification regulations published in March 2012.

Specifically, 42 CFR 435.9450) and 457.3800) require state Medicaid and CHIP agencies to develop, and update as modified, a verification plan describing the verification policies and procedures adopted by the state agency in accordance with 42 CFR 435.940-435.956 and 457.380. The goal of these verification regulations is to establish a simplified and transparent process for consumers, maximize use of automation through primary reliance on electronic data sources, and minimize the need for documentation, which will reduce state administrative burden while ensuring program integrity.

CMS staff conducted a thorough review of the California MAGI-based verification plan, participated in conference calls with the state, and engaged in follow-up consultations to clarify, complete and agree upon the enclosed final version. As discussed, the policies and procedures documented in the MAGI-based eligibility verification plan are in effect as of October 1, 2013, except as otherwise specified in the plan and/or described in a CMS-approved mitigation plan. If your verification policies or procedures change as a result of the system readiness process, please update your plan accordingly, note the duration of the mitigation approach, and resubmit to CMS.

The following are the verification processes and procedures that the state does not have in effect on October 1, 2013:

- Due to transition to Hub verification and new verification standards, for satisfactory immigration status, California will allow the same standard that is currently used for citizenship until January 1, 2014. This current standard allows for a 30 day reasonable opportunity period. With the implementation of Affordable Care Act, California will use the 90 day reasonable opportunity period for both citizenship and immigration status.

All state's MAGI-based verification plans will be made publicly available on Medicaid.gov. The final PDF version of your MAGI-Based Eligibility Verification Plan will also be saved in the Collaborative Application Lifecycle Tool (CALT) in your state's folder at

https://calt.cms.gov/sf/docman/do/listDocuments/projects.medicaid_state_collaborative_com/docman.root.verification_plan.template

We greatly appreciate your time, effort, and consideration in the development of this verification plan. Should you have additional questions or would like to discuss your verification plan and procedures further, please contact Jesse Havens at 410-786-6566 or jesse.havens@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,
Original Signed by,

Eliot Fishman
Director
Children and Adults Health Programs Group

cc:

Janette Casillas, Executive Director, Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board
Rene Mollow, Deputy Director, Department of Health Care Services
Harold Higgins, Health Program Specialist II, Department of Health Care Services
Gloria Nagle, CMS RO IX MEDICAID ARA
Anne Marie Costello, Director, Division of Eligibility Enrollment and Outreach