



California  
Department of  
Health Services

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**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**  
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CHDP Provider Information Notice No.: 04-17

**TO: ALL CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION (CHDP)  
PROVIDERS**

**SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS) ISSUING NEW  
MEDI-CAL BENEFITS IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

As a result of recent legislation and antifraud initiatives, DHS will be issuing new Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Cards (BICs) to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries starting in January 2005. DHS is in the process of informing Medi-Cal providers of the upcoming BIC card re-issuance and change in the BIC card. The new BIC card is being changed to replace the current 10-character BIC ID with a 14-character BIC ID, which will include the issue date of the BIC card. The CHDP Gateway Pre-enrollment application is being modified to accept either the current 9, 10, or the new 14-digit BIC ID. Attached is a copy of the flyer that appeared in the Medi-Cal Provider bulletin this month.

**Original signed by Marian Dalsey, M.D., M.P.H.**

Marian Dalsey, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Chief  
Children's Medical Services Branch

Attachment

Coming Soon!

# New Medi-Cal BIC Numbers

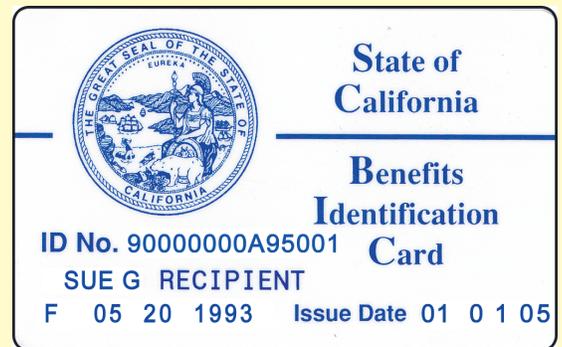
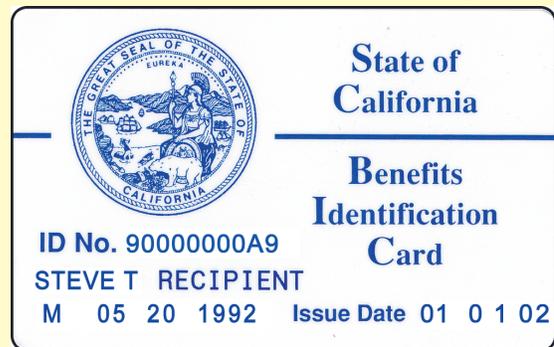
Starting in January 2005, Medi-Cal will issue new Benefits Identification Cards (BICs) with a 14-character alphanumeric ID. The new cards will be phased in statewide. Current BICs have either a 10-character numeric or a 10-character alphanumeric ID number.

New BIC IDs are comprised of a nine-character alphanumeric ID with a check digit and a four-digit Julian date that matches the date of issue on the BIC. As part of the phase-in process, the new ID will be processed the same as a 10-character alphanumeric BIC ID. Once the statewide reissuance is completed, the 10-digit ID numbers will be phased out.

Current billing and eligibility verification practices are not affected at this time.

Medi-Cal offers a variety of methods that allow providers to verify recipient eligibility (refer to the Medi-Cal Part 1 Provider Manual, *Eligibility: Recipient Identification* section).

Note: Providers are responsible for verifying the recipient's identity and eligibility for services. Eligibility verification should be performed prior to rendering service using the information from the BIC ID.



Please ensure manually entered BIC ID information is correct. Incorrect information could result in the following error messages:

**Invalid subscriber ID** - not a valid subscriber ID number/format

**Record not found** - valid BIC ID number/format, but no subscriber record

**No recorded eligibility for MM/YY** - valid BIC ID number/format, found subscriber record, but not eligible for month/year entered

The BIC illustrations are all valid ID versions.

- All numeric, 10 characters:  
0123456784
- Alphanumeric, 10 characters:  
90000000A9
- Alphanumeric, 14 character (*new*):  
90000000A95001