STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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March 16, 2001

To: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Health Executives
All County Mental Health Directors

Letter No01-18

THE AGED AND DISABLED FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (A&D FPL) PROGRAM – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Please refer to All County Welfare Director Letters 00-57 and 00-68.

Listed below are questions we have received from counties and other interested parties. We hope the answers will assist you in the administration of this new program.

1. **Do we use Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE) deduction?**

   Yes, counties will allow IRWE deductions.

2. **Whose income do we count when determining eligibility for this program?**

   The applicant(s) and their spouses; the parent(s) income when the applicant is a child. The child's income is counted when they are the one applying for the program. Please note; non-applicant children are included in the ineligible spouse's maintenance need level.

3. **If there is one parent and a child eligible for this program, how do we do the computation?**

   Treat them as two individuals and not as a couple.

4. **Are individuals in board and care eligible for this program? Can we use the $315 for Personal Care Services deduction (PCS)?**

   Yes, they are eligible for this program. If they are entitled to the PCS deduction, please use it.

5. Can individuals in a household qualify for more than just one program?

Sure, one person can be on the 250% working disabled program while the spouse can be on the A&D FPL program.

6. How do we do the computation for a household when one person may qualify for Pickle and the other for the A&D FPL program?

The Pickle eligibility determination should be done first. If only the wife or the husband qualifies as Pickle, treat the Pickle person as you would in other Public Assistance programs. Do not count the Pickle eligible's income or allow a deduction as an ineligible member of the household.

7. When will these new aid codes 1H, 6H, 1U, 6U be up and running on Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS)?

These new aid codes should be up and running sometime in February 2001.

8. What if one of the beneficiaries qualifies by paying a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) premium and now cancelled it or the state is going to pay for this premium, but this individual would have qualified for the A&D FPL program by paying their own premium?

If the individual canceled their HMO policy; countable income would go up and eligibility for A&D FPL would stop. If the state were going to pay the premium, and the state's payment of the premium would result in an individual's ineligibility, the impacted individual should contact the county and ask them to delete them from the list of those individuals who are having premiums paid. Then the county can call Third Party Liability at 1-800-952-5294 and inform them of the recipient's decision.

9. What order should programs be reviewed?

Process Order

- *1931(b)*
- *Pickle*
- *A&D FPL*
- *Medically Needy*

10. Do Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB) and Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB) affect this program?

The A&D FPL program does not affect QMBs and SLMBs. Please handle QMBs and SLMBs as usual.

If you have other questions please contact Craig Yagi of my staff at (916) 657-1182.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Glenda Arellano
Acting Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch