State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services

DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY
Director

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January 21, 2010

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS

Letter No.: 10-05

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ASSISTANCE REPORTING INFORMATION SYSTEM UPDATE
(Reference All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) No. 09-41)

The purpose of this letter is to update the information provided in All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) 09-41 regarding the Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) Interstate match based on implementation experience after three PARIS Interstate matches. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is required by federal statute to exchange information with PARIS to identify individuals receiving public assistance benefits in other states.

Entering Discontinuances in the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS)

DHCS is no longer using the “M1” value in the Eligibility Termination Reason field (MEDS Data Element #0185). DHCS is now using a value of “48” in this field which indicates a loss of legal residence.

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division, MS 4607, P.O. Box 997417, Sacramento, CA 95899-7417
(916) 552-9430 FAX (916) 552-9478
Internet Address: www.dhcs.ca.gov

Discontinuance Reports

Due to staffing considerations, DHCS will not be using the Business Objects Reporting System (BORS) as originally planned. Instead, DHCS is providing discontinuance reports to County Welfare Directors (CWD)s using an alternate spreadsheet format. In the event that DHCS transitions to BORS in the future, DHCS will contact the PARIS CWD representatives to alert them to this fact and explain the procedures for obtaining the necessary reports.

The discontinuance reports consist of an eight column spreadsheet as follows:

Column	Values
A	Client Index Number (CIN)
B	County Number
C	Name
D	Address
E	City-State-Zip
F	Discontinuance Reason
G	Worker Code
H	District Code

Treatment of Other Household Members

This provides instructions for how CWDs should handle other members of a discontinued beneficiary's case, especially if the residency verification for the head of household established residency for the spouse and/or dependents. When a Medi-Cal beneficiary is discontinued by DHCS as a result of the residency verification program, and the discontinued beneficiary established residency for any other household member, CWDs must review the case file and collect residency verification for the spouse and/or dependents as appropriate.

Reinstatement of Eligibility

When DHCS discontinues a beneficiary as a result of the residency verification program and the beneficiary presents themselves to the CWD seeking reinstatement or benefit restoration, follow these guidelines:

- If the beneficiary furnishes satisfactory residency verification within 30 days of the effective date of discontinuance, CWDs must reinstate eligibility for the discontinued beneficiary.

- If the beneficiary furnishes satisfactory residency verification after 30 days of the effective date of discontinuance, CWDs must request that the discontinued beneficiary submit a new Statement of Facts and additional application materials as necessary. CWDs must also request that the discontinued beneficiary submit an explanation for the receipt of public assistance benefits in another state and retain the explanation in the case file.

Scope of the Pilot Program

DHCS is performing the PARIS Interstate matching process on a pilot basis to test the cost effectiveness prior to implementing statewide. ACWDL 09-41 indicated that DHCS intends to focus on Medi-Cal beneficiaries who do not receive other California public assistance benefits. This letter clarifies that DHCS does not intend to select Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are receiving Foster Care or Adoption Assistance benefits for inclusion in the pilot. Through the first three matches, DHCS has selected beneficiary records from six California counties. DHCS is building capacity to add more counties in the future if the match remains successful in identifying ineligible nonresident beneficiaries.

PARIS CWD Representatives

ACWDL 09-41 requested that CWDs appoint a representative that is responsible for coordinating with DHCS on this residency verification pilot program. DHCS has received the contact information from 33 of the 58 CWDs. This letter requests that the remaining CWDs send an email to paris@dhcs.ca.gov or fax to (916) 440-5233 by February 26, 2010 to inform DHCS of the CWD representative.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please contact Mr. Manuel Urbina at (916) 650-0160 or at Manuel.Urbina@dhcs.ca.gov.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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Medi-Cal Eligibility Division