



DATE: March 2, 2026

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 26-06

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS  
ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS  
ALL COUNTY PICKLE COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: LYNCH V. RANK (PICKLE) – TICKLER SYSTEM  
(Reference: Pickle Handbook, Section 4, Pages 4-1 through 4-13)

The purpose of this Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter is to inform you that the Department of Health Care Services has mailed the Pickle Tickler Notices of Action (NOAs) the week of January 16, 2026, to individuals who:

- Currently receive Title II Retirement, Survivor’s, and Disability Insurance Social Security benefits;
- Have been discontinued from Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment program since December 2022 (for any reason); or
- Were determined ineligible during the Pickle screening process.

A copy of the NOA (Notice Type 52) is enclosed.

Counties should have received their individual Pickle Tickler report the week of December 22, 2025. Additionally, pursuant to the *Lynch v. Rank* lawsuit, each potentially eligible Pickle individual must receive a Pickle Medi-Cal notice for three consecutive years. Therefore, the December 2025 Tickler report will now only list potential individuals eligible for Pickle for years 2023, 2024, and 2025. Individuals listed during previous years will be dropped from the report.



Letter No.: I 26-06

Page 2

March 2, 2026

In addition, the lawsuit requires that each of the individuals on the Pickle Tickler listing, who has an active Medi-Cal case or who brings the NOA into the county welfare department to apply under the Pickle amendment, shall have an eligibility determination completed in accordance with [Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 14005.37](#). The eligibility determination shall take place by Friday, April 3, 2026.

Please refer to Section 4, pages 4-1 through 4-13 of your Pickle Handbook for specific instructions on county responsibilities for completing Pickle determinations.

County questions regarding policy guidance should be sent to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Division (MCED) Policy inbox at [MCED-Policy@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:MCED-Policy@dhcs.ca.gov). If you have any questions or if we can provide further information, please contact [nonmagiinbox@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:nonmagiinbox@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Theresa Hasbrouck  
Branch Chief  
Policy Development Branch  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division

Enclosure

State of California - Health and Human Services  
Department of Health Care Services  
Medical Assistance

NOTICE TYPE 52  
NOTICE PREPARATION DATE:  
DECEMBER 30, 2025

MEDI-CAL NOTICE

Lynch v. Rank Tickler Notice

01

JANE A DOE  
1234 ANYPLACE BLVD  
ANYTOWN CA 99999

TO: Medi-Cal Members Discontinued from SSI/SSP

RE: CONTINUED MEDI-CAL BENEFITS

We have been told that you received Supplemental Security Income and/or State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP) benefits some time after April 1977. We have also been told that your benefits have stopped. If we are wrong and you have never received SSI/SSP, or you are now getting SSI/SSP benefits, please ignore this notice.

The purpose of this notice is to let you know that under a federal law called the Pickle amendment, Medi-Cal eligibility continues without a share of cost for certain individuals whose SSI/SSP benefits were stopped.

What does this mean to you? Because you once received SSI/SSP and are still on our list, you may be evaluated for Medi-Cal under the Pickle legislation. If eligible, you will receive Medi-Cal with no share of cost.

How do you apply? Call your local county welfare office within 30 days if you want your Medi-Cal eligibility determined under the Pickle Amendment. They will send you an application and/or make an appointment for you. Be sure to save this notice.

What if you already get Medi-Cal but have to pay a share of cost? Call your worker at your local welfare office and ask that your case be evaluated for "Pickle" eligibility.

What if you already get Medi-Cal and have no share of cost? Just ignore this notice unless you start to receive a share of cost.

What if you are now getting SSI/SSP benefits? You should ignore this notice. Persons who receive SSI/SSP automatically receive Medi-Cal at no share of cost.

If you have any questions about your Medi-Cal benefits as a Pickle eligible, you should contact the county welfare department for the county in which you live. To help you, we have listed below the address and telephone number of the county welfare department in your area.

Note: If you have already been in contact with the county welfare department regarding your Pickle status, please follow their instructions and ignore this notice.

CONTACT: County Name  
County Office  
Address Line 1  
City, State Zip Code  
Attn: County Contact  
County Phone Number