



TOBY DOUGLAS
Director

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

October 1, 2014

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 14-48

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

SUBJECT: HOSPITAL PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY (HPE) PROGRAM
MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY DATA SYSTEM (MEDS)
PENDING APPLICATION TRANSACTION – EXTENSION OF
PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY (PE) PERIOD

The purpose of this letter is to remind the counties that when individuals enrolled in HPE submit an insurance affordability programs application, a pending application transaction must be submitted to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) to extend the PE benefits for these individuals.

Background

Individuals enrolled in the HPE Program are granted up to two months of PE coverage, from which the PE determination is made. Prior to the end of the PE period, the individual must submit an insurance affordability programs application to continue receiving benefits beyond the PE period end date. PE benefits will then continue until the insurance affordability programs application is adjudicated and the appropriate transaction is posted in MEDS.

HPE Beneficiaries Losing Their Coverage

MEDS is programmed to automatically terminate HPE benefits for individuals on the last day of the following month in which the PE determination was made; unless MEDS has received an AP-18 or HX-18 transaction showing a pending insurance affordability programs application. HPE beneficiaries who have complied with submitting a timely application are losing their coverage because the pending application transactions are not sent to MEDS to extend their coverage until a final eligibility determination is completed.

To extend PE coverage for HPE beneficiaries, counties shall ensure that an AP-18 application transaction is sent to and posted in MEDS with the insurance affordability

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application date to continue PE benefits until a final eligibility determination is made for ongoing eligibility (approval or denial). If the HPE beneficiary submits an application through Covered California, the California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System sends an HX-18 to MEDS and reports the pending application through that channel. In the event the HX-18 is not found, or not completed due to errors, counties can send an AP-18 transaction to MEDS to continue the applicant's PE eligibility until the determination is final and the appropriate MEDS transition is posted.

If you have any questions, please contact Delena Fong at (916) 324-0186 or by email at Delena.Fong@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Tara Naisbitt, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division