



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

December 18, 2008

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 08-57
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: 2009 MEDICARE PREMIUMS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY
INCOME STANDARD AND PARENT ALLOCATIONS FOR THE
QUALIFIED MEDICARE/SPECIFIED LOW-INCOME MEDICARE
BENEFICIARY/QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS-1 AND OTHER PROGRAMS
Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) Nos. 99-73,
00-65, 01-66, 02-56, 03-57, 04-39, 05-38, 06-35, 06-35E, 07-25

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of the 2009 Supplemental Security Income Standard Allocation, Parent Allocation and Medicare premium amounts to be used in determining eligibility and the cost of Medicare premiums. These allocations are based on the annual federal benefit rate (FBR) which is based on the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). The Standard Allocation increased from \$319 to \$337 (the couple FBR minus the individual FBR). The parent allocation is determined as follows:

When there is earned, unearned income, or a combination of income:

- The parent allocation (if one ineligible parent lives with a child) is \$674 (for an individual); and
- The parent allocation (if both ineligible parents live with a child) is \$1,011 (for a couple).

The 2009 Medicare Part A premium will rise to \$443 for persons who do not receive free Medicare Part A. The reduced Medicare Part A premium will increase to \$244 for

persons with 30-39 quarters of Medicare covered employment. Both have a ten percent penalty for late enrollment.

The 2009 Part A deductible will be \$1,068 for the first 60 days of inpatient care and \$267 per day for days 61 through 90. For days 91 through 150, the deductible will be \$534 per day. The skilled nursing facility deductible will be \$133.50 per day for days 21 through day 100 (there is no deductible for day 1 through 20).

For most individuals the 2009 Medicare Part B premium will be \$96.40 and the annual deductible will remain at \$135. However, if your income is above \$85,000 for one person or \$170,000 for a couple, then your Medicare Part B premium may be higher than \$96.40 per month.

Counties shall disregard the Title II COLAs for all programs where eligibility is based on the federal poverty level (FPL) until the new FPLs are effective for the particular program. An ACWDL will be issued to specifically address the FPLs.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Debra Hader at (916) 449-5280 or by email at debra.hader@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By:

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division