

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

ALL PLAN LETTER 26-001

**TO:** ALL MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

**SUBJECT:** 2025-2027 MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLAN MEDS/834  
CUTOFF AND PROCESSING SCHEDULE

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this All Plan Letter (APL) is to provide Medi-Cal Dental Managed Care Plans (Dental MCPs) with the 2025-2027 Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS)/834 cutoff and processing schedule.

**POLICY:**

The enclosed MEDS/834 cutoff and processing schedule covers the period of December 2025 through January 2027. These cutoff dates and timelines are established by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Enterprise Technology Services Division and are critical to ensuring timely processing of eligibility files and data. When applicable, it is important for DHCS to receive all enrollments and disenrollments on a daily basis. Dental MCPs must adhere to the enclosed cutoff dates and timelines to allow adequate processing time and to ensure timely payments. In addition to the MEDS/834 cutoff and processing schedule, enclosed is the updated outline of the Dental MCP 834 responsibilities and the Health Care Options (HCO) Secure Data Exchange Services (SDES) file posting schedule for 2026.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

If the requirements contained in this APL, including any updates or revisions to this APL, necessitate a change in a Dental MCP's contractually required policies and procedures (P&Ps), the plan must submit its updated P&Ps with and without Track Changes to DHCS' Medi-Cal Dental Services Division (MDSD) at [dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov) within 90 days of the release of this APL.

If a Dental MCP determines that no P&P changes are necessary, the Dental MCP must submit an email confirmation to [dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov) within 10 days of the release of this APL, stating that the Dental MCP's P&Ps have been reviewed and no changes are necessary. The email confirmation must include the title of this APL as well as the applicable APL release date in the subject line.

Dental MCPs are responsible for ensuring that their Subcontractors and Network Providers comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, contract requirements, and other DHCS guidance, including APLs and Policy Letters.

These requirements must be communicated by each Dental MCP to all Subcontractors and Network Providers.

If you have any questions regarding this APL, please contact MDSD at  
[dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov).

For questions regarding the HCO schedule, please contact HCO at 1-866-710-4522.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by:*

Dana Durham  
Chief, Medi-Cal Dental Services Division  
Department of Health Care Services

Enclosures

## **DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLAN/MEDS/834 RESPONSIBILITES January 2026**

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All Medi-Cal Dental Managed Care Plans (Dental MCPs) are reminded of the importance of keeping the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Medi-Cal Dental Services Division (MDSD) informed of any Plan changes as described below.

### **NOTIFICATION/REQUEST PROCESS**

Dental MCPs are reminded of the extreme importance of notifying MDSD by sending an email to [dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov) and the Managed Care Operations Division (MCOD) Systems Support Unit (SSU) of any Dental MCP/MEDS/834 changes prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> of any given month by sending an email to [ssuhelpdesk@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:ssuhelpdesk@dhcs.ca.gov). This receipt deadline is necessary to meet DHCS Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) processing timelines and make the changes effective within 45-60 days. It is requested that Dental MCPs send the original copy of their notification (which includes the original signature of person authorized to submit the change) to their assigned MDSD Contract Manager. Examples of Dental MCP/MEDS/834 changes for which notification must be given are, but not limited to: Dental MCP/MEDS/834 MIS Coordinator name change, address and phone number changes, or distribution changes, etc.

- Please include the following Dental MCP information in the email notification:
  - Plan Name
  - Plan Code(s) (Specify all “Active” Plan Codes)
  - Plan Mailing Address
  - MEDS/834 MIS Contact  
(Name, Phone/Page/Fax Numbers, and E-mail Address)
  - MEDS/834 MIS Backup Contact  
(Name, Phone/Page/Fax Numbers, and E-mail Address)
  - The nature of the Dental MCP/MEDS/834 change
- Medi-Cal 834 files are available via the 834 SFTP site. Please contact your Contract Manager should you have any questions.
- Month-End 834 files will be available by 5:00 p.m., two days after MEDS renewal. Dental MCPs are asked to wait until 5:00 p.m. and then, if the HCP file is not available, please contact ETS @ (916) 440-7000 and request that the ticket is sent to HCP Services - CAPMAN 820/834.

<b>Process Month</b>	<b>Month of Eligibility</b>	<b>MCP file input due (MCP to EITS by 2:30 PM)</b>	<b>MEDS Renewal</b>	<b>834 file available (SFTP site no later than 5:00 PM)</b>
<b>Dec-2025</b>	<b>Jan-2026</b>	(Thu) Dec 18, 2025	(Tue) Dec 23, 2025	(Fri) Dec 26, 2025
<b>Jan-2026</b>	<b>Feb-2026</b>	(Wed) Jan 21, 2026	(Mon) Jan 26, 2026	(Wed) Jan 28, 2026
<b>Feb-2026</b>	<b>Mar-2026</b>	(Wed) Feb 18, 2026	(Mon) Feb 23, 2026	(Wed) Feb 25, 2026
<b>Mar-2026</b>	<b>Apr-2026</b>	(Wed) Mar 18, 2026	(Mon) Mar 23, 2026	(Wed) Mar 25, 2026
<b>Apr-2026</b>	<b>May-2026</b>	(Mon) Apr 20, 2026	(Thu) Apr 23, 2026	(Tue) Apr 28, 2026
<b>May-2026</b>	<b>Jun-2026</b>	(Wed) May 20, 2026	(Tue) May 26, 2026	(Thu) May 28, 2026
<b>Jun-2026</b>	<b>Jul-2026</b>	(Thu) Jun 18, 2026	(Tue) Jun 23, 2026	(Mon) Jun 29, 2026
<b>Jul-2026</b>	<b>Aug-2026</b>	(Wed) Jul 22, 2026	(Mon) Jul 27, 2026	(Wed) Jul 29, 2026
<b>Aug-2026</b>	<b>Sep-2026</b>	(Thu) Aug 20, 2026	(Tue) Aug 25, 2026	(Mon) Aug 31, 2026
<b>Sep-2026</b>	<b>Oct-2026</b>	(Fri) Sep 18, 2026	(Wed) Sep 23, 2026	(Mon) Sep 28, 2026
<b>Oct-2026</b>	<b>Nov-2026</b>	(Wed) Oct 21, 2026	(Mon) Oct 26, 2026	(Wed) Oct 28, 2026
<b>Nov-2026</b>	<b>Dec-2026</b>	(Wed) Nov 18, 2026	(Mon) Nov 23, 2026	(Wed) Nov 25, 2026
<b>Dec-2026</b>	<b>Jan-2027</b>	(Fri) Dec 18, 2026	(Wed) Dec 23, 2026	(Mon) Dec 28, 2026
<b>Jan-2027</b>	<b>Feb-2027</b>	(Wed) Jan 20, 2027	(Mon) Jan 25, 2027	(Wed) Jan 27, 2027

### State Holidays

January 1, 2026 New Year's Day  
 January 19, 2026 Dr. Martin Luther King Day  
 February 16, 2026 President's Day  
 March 31, 2026 César Chávez Day  
 May 25, 2026 Memorial Day  
 July 4, 2026 Independence Day  
 September 7, 2026 Labor Day  
 November 11, 2026 Veteran's Day  
 November 26, 2026 Thanksgiving Day  
 November 27, 2026 Day After Thanksgiving  
 December 25, 2026 Christmas Day  
 January 1, 2027 New Year's Day  
 January 18, 2027 Dr. Martin Luther King Day

### Legend:

MEDS - Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System  
 MCP - Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan  
 SPD - Seniors and Persons with Disabilities  
 SFTP - Secure File Transfer Protocol

# MAXIMUS 2026 CALENDAR

JANUARY 1							20 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
(18)	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

JULIAN DATES 1-31

FEBRUARY 2							19 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		

JULIAN DATES 32-59

MARCH 3							21 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31						

JULIAN DATES 60-90

APRIL 4							22 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
(12)	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30				

JULIAN DATES 91-120

MAY 5							20 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
				1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
(10)	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								

JULIAN DATES 121-151

JUNE 6							22 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6			
(7)	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30						

JULIAN DATES 152-181

JULY 7							23 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4		
(5)	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
(19)	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

JULIAN DATES 182-212

AUGUST 8							21 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1					
(2)	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
(16)	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

JULIAN DATES 213-243

SEPTEMBER 9							21 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
(13)	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

JULIAN DATES 244-273

OCTOBER 10							22 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
(11)	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

JULIAN DATES 274-304

NOVEMBER 11							18 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
(8)	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							

JULIAN DATES 305-334

DECEMBER 12							22 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
(6)	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30	31				

JULIAN DATES 335-365

## CUT-OFF DATES '26

MONTH	CUT-OFF	MOE
JANUARY	01.26.26	02.01.26
FEBRUARY	02.23.26	03.01.26
MARCH	03.23.26	04.01.26
APRIL	04.23.26	05.01.26
MAY	05.26.26	06.01.26
JUNE	06.23.26	07.01.26
JULY	07.27.26	08.01.26
AUGUST	08.25.26	09.01.26
SEPTEMBER	09.23.26	10.01.26
OCTOBER	10.26.26	11.01.26
NOVEMBER	11.23.26	12.01.26
DECEMBER	12.23.26	01.01.27

## MAXIMUS HOLIDAYS '26

NEW YEAR'S DAY	01.01.26
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	01.19.26
PRESIDENT'S DAY	02.16.26
CESAR CHAVEZ	03.31.26
MEMORIAL DAY	05.25.26
LABOR DAY	09.07.26
VETERAN'S DAY	11.11.26
THANKSGIVING	11.26-27.26
CHRISTMAS DAY	12.25.26

## SCHEDULES '26

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE IMPLEMENTS
MONTHLY RECON
SYSTEMS MONTHLY SECURITY PATCH
BI-WEEKLY INTERNAL SECURITY SCAN
WPF/MER FOR POSTING THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY

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JANUARY-2027							19 BUSINESS DAYS	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5</				