

DATE: December 9, 2025

NL: 06-1225

Index: Program Administration

TO: All County California Children's Services Program Administrators

SUBJECT: California Children's Services Members with Unsatisfactory Immigration Status

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Numbered Letter (NL) is to provide guidance to County California Children's Services (CCS) Programs on the upcoming changes with Medi-Cal enrollment as it pertains to unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) for Medi-Cal members, including those enrolled in the CCS Program.

II. BACKGROUND

Beginning January 1, 2026, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will freeze new Medi-Cal enrollments for individual adults ages 19 and older who qualified for full scope Medi-Cal because of the state-funded Adult Expansion initiative. Adult members who fall under the enrollment freeze are those who have no immigration status, an unverified immigration status, or are certain non-immigrant visa holders who are active on full-scope Medi-Cal.¹ Starting January 1, 2026, these individuals who newly apply for Medi-Cal will only be eligible for emergency or pregnancy-related services.

III. POLICY

CCS Program members ages 19 and 20 who are currently enrolled in Medi-Cal prior to January 1, 2026, will continue to stay covered under Medi-Cal regardless of immigration status as long as the member completes and meets Medi-Cal eligibility, i.e., renewals, income, and residency requirements. If a CCS Program member loses Medi-Cal coverage, they will not be eligible to re-enroll into Medi-Cal, except for emergency or pregnancy care. If coverage stops because of a late renewal or missing

¹ [Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Immigration Status](#)

paperwork, members will have 90 days from the date of disenrollment to correct the issue to stay enrolled in Medi-Cal.²

CCS Program applicants and members eligible for Medi-Cal, ages 0-18, may continue to enroll in full scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status.

IV. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

When a County CCS Program becomes aware of a member with UIS that loses Medi-Cal eligibility, the County must refer the member and/or family to their local Medi-Cal Eligibility Office, if within 90 days of Medi-Cal termination and/or work with the member and/or family to begin the eligibility process for enrollment into CCS state-only.

If you have any questions regarding this NL, please contact DHCS at CCSProgram@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Joseph Billingsley
Assistant Deputy Director for Integrated Systems
Health Care Delivery Systems
Department of Health Care Services

² [Welfare and Institution Code 14007.8\(b\)\(2\)](#)