November 26, 2014

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 14-58

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

SUBJECT: Elimination of the Deprivation Language from Notices of Action (NOAs)
(Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter 14-28)

The purpose of this letter is to advise counties to remove language related to the deprivation requirement from Notices of Action (NOAs) generated by the Statewide Automated Welfare Systems and mailed by counties.

Background
All County Welfare Directors Letter 14-28, Elimination of the Deprivation Requirement for Medi-Cal Linkage for the Modified Adjusted Gross Income Parent/Caretaker Group and the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Medically Needy Program, informed counties that effective January 1, 2014, linkage as, or through, a child no longer requires that the child be deprived. This affects applicants and beneficiaries in the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Parent/Caretaker group as well as those in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children- Medically Needy program.

Required Changes to NOAs
Effective immediately, NOAs that refer to Medi-Cal program linkage must not make reference to deprivation. For example, language referencing that an individual is the parent/caretaker relative of a child whose parent(s) is/are absent from the home, deceased, incapacitated, or unemployed must not be included on the NOA. Whenever the absence of linkage through a minor child is referenced in a NOA, the language must be changed to “you do not live with, and do not have primary responsibility to provide care for, a minor child.”
Additionally, all non-MAGI NOAs must include the following language:

Please Note: You or other family members may receive a separate notice about your eligibility for other Medi-Cal programs. Please call your worker if you need additional information about this notice.

NOAs may continue to include information about program linkage, as appropriate. For example, it is appropriate for individuals ineligible for non-MAGI Medi-Cal, because they do not have linkage to the Medi-Cal program, to receive a NOA which provides the no-linkage explanation.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Alison Brown at (916) 319-9565 or by email at Alison.Brown@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed by

Tara Naisbitt, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division