May 25, 2010

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: EXTENSION TO FILING DATE FOR THE $25 STIMULUS PAYMENT TO BOTH REGULAR AND EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Division B, Title III, Section 2002, which provides an increase to both regular and extended Unemployment Benefits by $25 a week, has been extended to individuals who have a regular claim filed by May 23, 2010, this payment will be ending the week of December 11, 2010. The $25 weekly increase must not be considered income for purposes of determining eligibility or share-of-cost for all Medi-Cal programs.

Individuals may also establish entitlement to Federal Additional Compensation payments through the week ending December 13, 2010, if they file Disaster Unemployment Assistance claim with an effective date of May 23, 2010, or before.

The $25 stimulus payments are not payable for Training Extension claims.

Please see All County Welfare Directors Letter 09-22 for more information concerning the $25 stimulus payment.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
René Mollow, MSN, RN, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division

Enclosure
April 29, 2009

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS       Letter No.: 09-22
    ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
    ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIAISONS
    ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
    ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: INCOME DISREGARD FOR THE INCREASE TO BOTH REGULAR AND EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS.

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, Division B, Title II, Section 2002 (h) provides for a Federal Stimulus increase to both regular and extended Unemployment Benefits by $25 a week. The increases will begin with the week of February 22, 2009, for both existing and new claims. The monthly equivalent to the $25 weekly increase shall be exempt income and, as such, shall not be considered income for purposes of determining eligibility or share-of-cost (SOC).

To be eligible for the additional Unemployment Compensation benefit payments an individual must:

• Have a regular Unemployment Compensation Benefits claim, Disaster Unemployment Assistance claim, or federal extension claim that began on or before December 20, 2009, or
• Submit a continued claim form for a week or weeks beginning on or after February 22, 2009 or after;
• Be eligible for at least $1 in Unemployment Compensation Benefits, and
• Meet all other eligibility criteria
Any individuals who have a claim effective December 20, 2009, and have not exhausted all rights to regular compensation can receive the additional $25 weekly benefit up to June 30, 2010.

Effective immediately, applicants/beneficiaries or representatives who report the receipt of the $25 Federal Stimulus increase in their Unemployment Compensation Benefit as described above, shall be required to provide verification sufficient to identify the nature of the increase in order to receive the income exemption. (See enclosed sample).

Counties shall rescind any discontinuance, denial or SOC notice of action (NOA) issued as they become aware of any case that was adversely affected as a result of the delay in implementing this provision of the ARRA. Counties shall then retroactively redetermine eligibility and SOC appropriate and reissue NOAs.

If you have other questions regarding our response, please call Mr. Craig Yagi, of my staff, at (916) 552-9522.

Original Signed By

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division