



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

February 1, 2013

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 13-04
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS 1 PROGRAM AND
TRANSITIONAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SUNSET DATE

(QI-1 Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter Nos.: 98-08, 98-15, 98-47,
98-60, 99-14, 99-43, 99-61, 03-02, 03-20, 03-51, 04-11, 04-38, 05-04, 05-37, 07-32,
08-08, 08-33, 09-11, 11-36, 12-18

(TMA Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter Numbers 88-51, 90-06, 90-32,
90-37, 90-66, 91-57, 92-59, 94-47, 95-85, 96-19, 96-50, 98-24, 98-54, 98-56, 99-05,
99-44, 99-55, 00-01, 00-32, 00-33, 00-53, 01-02, 01-12, 01-25, 01-36, 01-45, 02-02,
02-31, 03-30, 03-45, 03-55, 04-28, 08-21, 08-35, 09-13, 11-03, 12-09)

The purpose of this letter is to notify the counties that on January 2, 2013, the Taxpayer Relief Bill (H.R. 8) was signed into law and extends the Qualifying Individuals-1 (QI-1) program and the Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) sunset date to December 31, 2013.

Qualifying Individual 1 Program (QI-1)

The QI-1 program provides payment reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums for individuals with income below 135 percent of the federal poverty level. The QI-1 program was originally scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2002, but Congress has granted a number of temporary extensions.

Because QI-1 has been extended many times, counties are to continue accepting applications and determining eligibility for the QI-1 program until the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) notifies them that the QI-1 program has been discontinued.

If the QI-1 program is discontinued, DHCS will:

- Notify counties of the termination date.
- Discontinue the QI-1 eligibility reporting on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System.
- Discontinue the Medicare Part B buy-in.
- Send a notice of discontinuance to QI-1 individuals.
- Send a listing of discontinued QI-1 individuals to counties so that county systems can be updated.

Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA)

TMA, known as Transitional Medi-Cal (TMC) in California, provides up to 12 months of Medi-Cal eligibility to beneficiaries discontinued from the Section 1931(b) Medi-Cal program due to employment-related reasons, such as increased hours and/or earnings. TMA has been scheduled to sunset on various occasions in past years, but Congress has granted temporary extensions.

Because the extension of TMC has occurred many times, counties have been advised to continue to determine eligibility for TMC until the Department of Health Care Services notifies counties that TMC has been discontinued.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Tammy Kaylor at (916) 327-0406 or by email at Tammy.Kaylor@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By

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