

Welcome to the Asset Elimination Advocate Webinar

Thank you for joining! The Webinar will begin soon.

November 29, 2023

Elimination of Assets for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal Programs

January 1, 2024



Medi-Cal Eligibility Division

Asset Elimination Overview

- **Assembly Bill 133** (Chapter 143, Statutes of 2021) was signed into law by the Governor on July 27, 2021. This law included a two-phased approach to eliminating the asset test used to determine eligibility for Non-Modified Adjusted Gross Income (Non-MAGI) Medi-Cal Programs.
- **Phase I**, implemented on **July 1, 2022**, increased asset limits for all Non-MAGI programs to **\$130,000** per individual and **\$65,000** for each additional household member (up to 10).
- **Phase II**, effective on **January 1, 2024**, will eliminate the asset test entirely for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal programs, including Long-Term Care and Medicare Savings Programs.

Non-MAGI Populations

- Non-MAGI Medi-Cal is made up of a variety of programs targeted at specific groups of people with certain attributes and income levels.
- Some people who do not qualify for MAGI Medi-Cal may qualify for a Non-MAGI Medi-Cal program.
- The following individuals may be eligible for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal:
 - Persons under 21 years of age, or 65 years of age and older
 - Individuals who are blind or disabled
 - Individuals residing in long term care facilities or nursing homes
 - Families with children under the age of 21 who have too much income to qualify for MAGI Medi-Cal
 - Pregnant women

Individuals with Supplemental Security Income

- The Social Security Administration (SSA) administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.
- SSI recipients are automatically eligible for Medi-Cal.
- The Elimination of Assets **does not apply** to individuals who receive their Medi-Cal through the SSI program, as SSI uses **federal** criteria for program eligibility.

Retroactive Medi-Cal

- Medi-Cal applicants can request retroactive Medi-Cal coverage for up to three months prior to the month of application.
- Individuals who apply for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal programs prior to January 1, 2024, will be subject to the current asset rules.
 - Current asset limit is **\$130,000** for an individual.
 - An additional **\$65,000** is added for each additional household member (up to 10).

Stakeholder Engagement

- DHCS is using existing stakeholder engagement forums to discuss and provide updates on Asset Elimination implementation, including but not limited to:
 - Asset Elimination Stakeholder Workgroup;
 - The Consumer-Focused Stakeholder Workgroup;
 - County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA) meetings.

Estate Recovery

- Policy guidance is located in [MEDIL I 23-39](#).
- There are **no changes** to the Estate Recovery program or process due to the elimination of assets.
- DHCS will **continue** to seek repayment from the estates of deceased Medi-Cal members who meet the criteria under federal and state laws.
- Counties **will not** request asset information from applicants or Medi-Cal members for purposes of Estate Recovery.
- For specific questions regarding Estate Recovery, please reach out to the **DHCS Third Party Liability and Recovery Division**.
 - **Website:** [Estate Recovery \(ca.gov\)](#)
 - **Email:** ER@dhcs.ca.gov
 - **Phone:** (916) 650-0590

Income-Producing Assets

- Policy guidance is located in [ACWDL 23-20](#), [ACWDL 23-21](#), and [ACWDL 23-22E](#).
- **Assets that produce income are:**
 - Annuities
 - Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)
 - Retirement Plans for Self-Employed Individuals (formerly known as Keoghs)
 - Work-Related Pension Funds
 - Income from Rental Property
 - Interest and Dividends
 - Trusts

Annuities

- Effective January 1, 2024, the **undistributed balance** of an annuity is no longer considered in the Non-MAG Medi-Cal eligibility determination.
- Any payments received from an annuity will continue to **count** as **unearned income**, per [22 CCR § 50507](#).
- Individuals are **no longer required** to take periodic distributions from the annuity as a condition of Medi-Cal eligibility.

IRAs, Retirement Plans for Self-Employed Individuals, Work-Related Pension Plans

- As of **January 1, 2024**, the cash value of these plans are no longer a factor for the Non-MAGI Medi-Cal eligibility determination.
- Any payments received from these funds will continue to count as **unearned income**, per [22 CCR § 50507](#).
- Individuals are **no longer required** receive periodic payments from these funds as a condition of Medi-Cal eligibility.
- These funds are **not** considered unconditionally available income.

Income from Rental Property

- As of January 1, 2024, **property utilization requirements** under [22 CCR §50416](#) and [§50427](#) are **no longer required**, as the underlying property is no longer a factor in the Medi-Cal eligibility determination.
- The **net income** received from the rental of real property will continue to count in the Medi-Cal eligibility determination and is calculated in accordance with [22 CCR §50508](#).

Interest & Dividend Income

- Effective **January 1, 2024**, there is **no change** to the treatment of payments of interest & dividend income for purposes of Non-MAGI Medi-Cal eligibility.
- Interest & dividend income is **unearned income** under [22 CCR § 50507\(a\)\(19-20\)](#), unless there is a specific exclusion.
- For additional information regarding interest and dividend income, please refer to [ACWDL 23-21](#).

Treatment of Trusts

- Effective **January 1, 2024**, trust principal is disregarded for purposes of Medi-Cal eligibility.
- **Income rules** regarding trusts have not changed.
- For additional information regarding the treatment of trust income, please review [ACWDL 23-22E](#).

Spousal Impoverishment

- Effective January 1, 2024, the **Community Spouse Resource Allowance** (CSRA) will no longer apply.
- **Income eligibility** for the SI provisions will remain unchanged.
 - DHCS will continue to publish annual guidance regarding the **Minimum Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance** and the **Average Private Pay Rate**.
- For individuals seeking the application of SI provisions **prior to January 1, 2024**, current SI property policies shall apply.
- For more information regarding Spousal Impoverishment provisions, please refer to [ACWDL 23-16](#).

Transfers of Assets on or after January 1, 2024

- Transfers of assets made **on or after January 1, 2024**, will not be reviewed for purposes of Medi-Cal eligibility.
- Counties will not request verification of transfers or calculate any periods of ineligibility.

Transfers of Assets Prior to January 1, 2024

- Transfers of assets made prior to January 1, 2024, will still be **subject to the transfer of asset rules**, including periods of ineligibility.
- Transfers of assets made by an individual applying for Long-Term Care (LTC) or a current Medi-Cal member or their spouse seeking LTC services will continue to be reviewed in the look-back period **prior** to January 1, 2024.

Outreach Materials Resource Hub



Become a Coverage Ambassador

- » Check the [stakeholder resource page](#) for up-to-date content and resources.
- » Become a DHCS Coverage Ambassador (in English and Spanish).
 - Currently, we have 4000+ DHCS Coverage Ambassadors signed up to help DHCS spread the word on the Continuous Coverage Unwinding Efforts.
 - [Sign up here](#)



Keep Your Community Covered Resources Hub

- » DHCS launched the Keep Your Community Covered Resources Hub to support collaboration in this effort.
- » Download and share resources in all **19 threshold languages**.



The screenshot displays the 'Keep Your Medi-Cal' campaign page. At the top, a dark blue header features the text 'Keep your community covered.' in white, accompanied by an icon of three stylized figures under an umbrella. Below the header, the page is titled 'Keep Your Medi-Cal' and includes a 'CAMPAIGN' label. The 'DESCRIPTION' section explains that the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is conducting a statewide public information, education, and outreach campaign to raise awareness about the return of the annual Medi-Cal eligibility renewals and encourage Medi-Cal members to take steps to keep themselves and their families covered. It also mentions that DHCS created the Keep Your Community Covered Resource Hub with outreach materials in English to promote collaboration with community groups. A note states: 'Important: clicking on the file names will immediately begin downloading the files.'

The page features a grid of resource categories, each with a download icon:

- General Messaging Resources
- Social Media Graphics
- Print Materials
- Media Outreach Resources
- Videos
- For IHSS Recipients
- For Uninsured Group
- For Providers
- For Managed Care Plans (MCPs)
- For Schools and Families
- For Older Californians
- For Employers

Below the grid, there is a section for 'ADDITIONAL DOWNLOADABLE ASSETS & HOUSED MEDIA' with two buttons: 'English Communications Toolkit' and 'English Renewal Message Guide'.

The bottom section of the screenshot shows the start of the 'Mantenga Su Medi-Cal' campaign, including a 'CAMPAIGN' label and a 'DESCRIPTION' section. The description explains that DHCS is conducting a statewide public information, education, and outreach campaign to raise awareness about the return of the annual Medi-Cal eligibility renewals and encourage Medi-Cal members to take steps to keep themselves and their families covered. It also mentions that DHCS created the Keep Your Community Covered Resource Hub with outreach materials in Spanish to promote collaboration with community groups. A note states: 'Important: clicking on the file names will immediately begin downloading the files.'

The bottom section also features a grid of resource categories:

- General Messaging Resources
- Social Media Graphics
- Print Materials
- Media Outreach Resources
- For Uninsured Group
- Videos

Social Media Graphics

GOT MEDI-CAL?



Look for important renewal info.



DON'T LOSE YOUR COVERAGE.

Got Medi-Cal Tweet

Medi-Cal renewals are starting! If your contact info has changed in the last three years, log into your Medi-Cal account to update it. Then look for renewal info in the mail and respond right away to keep your coverage. Find where to update your info at KeepMediCalCoverage.org

 **Post**

Take action to keep your Medi-Cal!



Watch for an important renewal letter coming soon.

Take Action FB Post Copy

Make sure Medi-Cal can reach you. Visit KeepMediCalCoverage.org to learn how to log in and check that Medi-Cal has your current contact information – and update it if you need to.

 **Post to timeline**

MEDI-CAL MEMBERS:

Act now to keep your coverage.




Get in-person help to renew your Medi-Cal.




已经参加 MEDI-CAL?

请注意重要的续保信息。




不要失去您的保险。

ការបន្ត MEDI-CAL ឡើងវិញ កំពុងចាប់ផ្តើម។

ធានាថា អ្នកអាចរក្សា ការធានារ៉ាប់រងរបស់អ្នក។




Print Materials

- » Customizable flyers, poster, and palm card are available in 19 threshold languages.
- » You can add a logo and contact information using free Adobe Reader.
- » To add your organization's logo, click on the grey mountain icon and upload your logo.
- » There is also a text box to add contact information.

How to Update Your Contact Information for Medi-Cal

Your local Medi-Cal office will contact you when it is time for you to renew your coverage. If your information changes, update your account or let your local Medi-Cal office know right away. Update your contact information so you don't miss any important information about your Medi-Cal.

Three ways to update your contact information

| ONLINE | BY PHONE | IN PERSON |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">This is the fastest way to check and update your information.You can log in or create an account through BenefitsCal.com.If you don't know which system to use, visit KeepMediCalCoverage.org for help. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">You can call your local Medi-Cal office.Find your local Medi-Cal office's phone number at KeepMediCalCoverage.org. Select "Find my local Medi-Cal office" from the menu.Have your information ready before you call. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">You can visit your local Medi-Cal office.Find your local Medi-Cal office at KeepMediCalCoverage.org. Select "Find my local Medi-Cal office" from the menu.Bring your new information that you will be using. |

You can also contact an Enrollment Navigator for additional help. Visit [KeepMediCalCoverage.org](https://www.KeepMediCalCoverage.org) and select "Find local help."

Medi-Cal



Videos

- » Detailed How-To explaining the step-by-step renewal process. This is perfect for lobbies and waiting rooms.
- » Short videos made for social media and advertising, including “Take Care” and “Stay Covered”.

**Top 3 things
to know about
Medi-Cal renewal.**



**Las 3 cosas más importantes
que debe saber sobre
la renovación de Medi-Cal.**



يُحافظ برنامج
Medi-Cal على
تأمينك وتأمين
عائلتك.

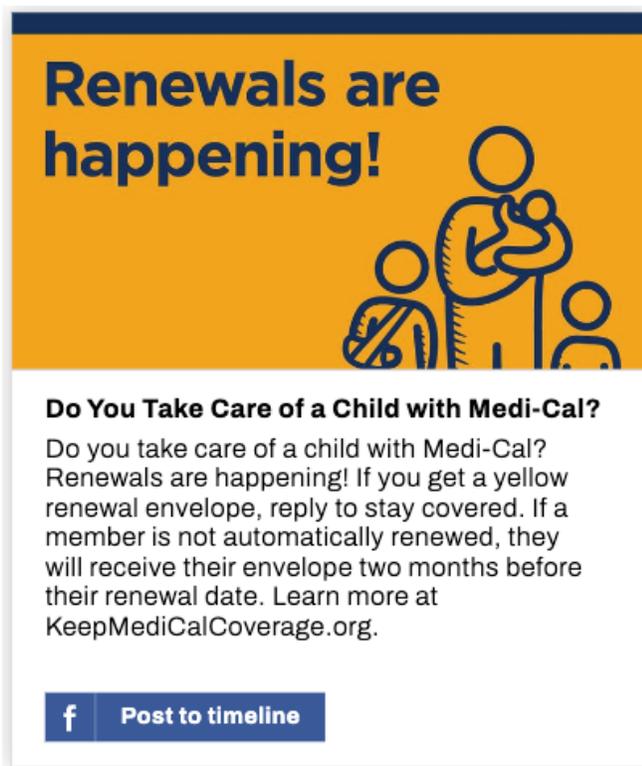


អ្នកត្រូវផ្តល់ព័ត៌មានដែលបានស្នើសុំ
ដើម្បីដឹងថាតើ អ្នកនៅតែមានលក្ខណៈសម្បត្តិសម្រាប់
Medi-Cal ឬយ៉ាងណា។



Tailored Audience Resources

- » Tailored resources for specific audiences and outreach partners, including In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Managed Care Plans (MCP), Providers, Schools and Families, and older Californians.



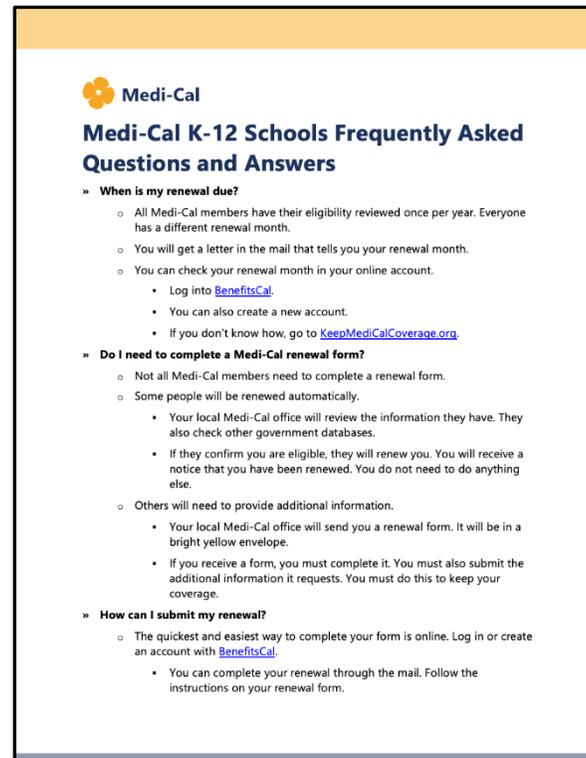
Renewals are happening!



Do You Take Care of a Child with Medi-Cal?

Do you take care of a child with Medi-Cal? Renewals are happening! If you get a yellow renewal envelope, reply to stay covered. If a member is not automatically renewed, they will receive their envelope two months before their renewal date. Learn more at KeepMediCalCoverage.org.

 [Post to timeline](#)



 **Medi-Cal**

Medi-Cal K-12 Schools Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

- » **When is my renewal due?**
 - o All Medi-Cal members have their eligibility reviewed once per year. Everyone has a different renewal month.
 - o You will get a letter in the mail that tells you your renewal month.
 - o You can check your renewal month in your online account.
 - Log into [BenefitsCal](#).
 - You can also create a new account.
 - If you don't know how, go to [KeepMediCalCoverage.org](#).
- » **Do I need to complete a Medi-Cal renewal form?**
 - o Not all Medi-Cal members need to complete a renewal form.
 - o Some people will be renewed automatically.
 - Your local Medi-Cal office will review the information they have. They also check other government databases.
 - If they confirm you are eligible, they will renew you. You will receive a notice that you have been renewed. You do not need to do anything else.
 - o Others will need to provide additional information.
 - Your local Medi-Cal office will send you a renewal form. It will be in a bright yellow envelope.
 - If you receive a form, you must complete it. You must also submit the additional information it requests. You must do this to keep your coverage.
- » **How can I submit my renewal?**
 - o The quickest and easiest way to complete your form is online. Log in or create an account with [BenefitsCal](#).
 - You can complete your renewal through the mail. Follow the instructions on your renewal form.

Do you or a loved one have Medi-Cal?

Renewals are happening now!



Asset Elimination

**CURRENT MEDI-CAL MEMBERS:
ASSET RULES HAVE CHANGED.**

**You no longer
need to report
assets to renew.**



 **Medi-Cal**

English Current Medi-Cal Members

Current Medi-Cal members! The rules changed, assets no longer count toward your Medi-Cal eligibility. Your car, house, bank accounts and other assets are not counted. Income will continue to be counted. Learn more at [GetMedi-CalCoverage.dhcs.ca.gov](https://www.getmedicalcoverage.dhcs.ca.gov).

**ASSET RULES HAVE CHANGED.
MORE PEOPLE CAN GET COVERAGE.**

**You may now
be eligible
for Medi-Cal.**



 **Medi-Cal**

English More People Can Get Coverage

Starting in January 2024, assets will no longer count toward your Medi-Cal eligibility. If your coverage was denied, delayed, reduced, or stopped, because of your assets, you can ask your local Medi-Cal office to review your case. Learn more at [GetMedi-CalCoverage.dhcs.ca.gov](https://www.getmedicalcoverage.dhcs.ca.gov).

New changes to Medi-Cal asset rules mean more people can keep their coverage.



Current Medi-Cal members do not need to report assets during their eligibility renewal.

A new law means assets will not be counted during Medi-Cal renewals.



- You do **not** need to report assets, such as bank accounts, property, and vehicles.
- You do **not** need to submit proof of your assets with your renewal form.
- Your Medi-Cal office **cannot** ask you for asset information.

- **Renewal forms in 2023 will still ask for asset information. You do not need to complete this section.**
- **Starting in January 2024, renewal forms will no longer ask for this information.**
- **You still need to complete other sections of your renewal form**
- **Current members, you do not need to do anything now unless you get a renewal form.**
- **Submit the information by the due date listed**
- **You can complete your renewal:**



ONLINE - Log in or create an account with BenefitsCal.



BY MAIL - Send to the address on your form.



OVER THE PHONE - Call the number on your form.



IN-PERSON - Go to your local Medi-Cal office.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

Health Enrollment Navigators can provide in-person assistance.



For more information, visit [KeepMediCalCoverage.org](https://www.KeepMediCalCoverage.org)



Office Name

-
Physical Address Line 1
Physical Address Line 2
Phone Number
Website

Pages to Bookmark

Resources:

[Keeping Your Community Covered](#)

[Keep Your Community Covered Resource Hub](#)

Medi-Cal member-facing pages:

[Keep Your Medi-Cal Coverage - English member landing page](#)

[Mantenga Su Medi-Cal - Spanish member landing page](#)

Questions?

Email: AssetLimitChanges@DHCS.ca.gov

