



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



May 13, 2022

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 22-19

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

SUBJECT: The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Uninsured Group Program Continues to Process COVID-19 Testing, Testing-related, Vaccination and Treatment Claims

The purpose of this Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter (MEDIL) is to inform counties, stakeholders and other interested parties, that the [COVID-19 Uninsured Group \(UIG\) Program](#) will continue to accept new applicants, and process claims from Medi-Cal providers even though the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) recently [announced](#) that the federal Uninsured Program funded by HRSA will stop accepting claims for testing, treatment, and vaccination claims due to insufficient funds. The COVID-19 UIG Program will be available until the last day of the calendar month in which the federal public health emergency ends.

Background

The COVID-19 UIG Program is authorized under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act enacted in March 2020, and elected as an optional group by DHCS through [Disaster State Plan Amendment 20-0024](#). This is a temporary Medi-Cal program that covers medically necessary COVID-19 testing, testing-related services, and treatments, including COVID-19 vaccines. The COVID-19 UIG Program will end the last day of the calendar month in which the federal COVID-19 public health emergency ends.

The COVID-19 UIG Program is available to uninsured and underinsured individuals determined eligible by a Qualified Presumptive Eligibility Provider based on preliminary applicant information. Qualified Providers are providers of the following programs: Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women, Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program, Hospital Presumptive Eligibility, and Child Health and Disability Prevention Gateway.

Qualified Providers must submit applications via the [COVID-19 Uninsured Group Application Portal](#). Providers can submit their COVID-19 testing, testing-related, vaccination and treatment claims to DHCS for claims processing. Per federal guidance, applications for the COVID-19 Uninsured Group can be retroactive to April 8, 2020.

Qualified Presumptive Eligibility Providers may complete COVID-19 Uninsured Group Program determinations off the premises of hospitals and clinics, such as in mobile clinics, street teams, or other locations. In addition, hospitals may choose to use third-party vendors, contractors, or subcontractors to help individuals complete the paper version of the COVID-19 Uninsured Group Program application (MC 374) off the premises outside of the hospital or clinic setting. For more information on the COVID-19 Uninsured Group Program Off-Premise Flexibilities, please visit [Medi-Cal NewsFlash: COVID-19 Uninsured Group Program Off-Premise Flexibilities](#) webpage.

If you have questions or concerns about the COVID-19 UIG program, please email COVID19Apps@dhcs.ca.gov.

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