

DATE: September 22, 2023

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information

Letter No.: I 23-45

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

SUBJECT: ACCELERATED ENROLLMENT EXPANSION TO THE STATEWIDE
AUTOMATED WELFARE SYSTEM
(References All County Welfare Directors Letter 22-24, 21-32)

The purpose of this letter is to provide the date the expansion of Accelerated Enrollment (AE) into the Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) functionality will be available in all systems.

AE was previously only available to children and adults who submitted online applications through the California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System (CalHEERS) and who meet all eligibility criteria pending county eligibility verifications. See All County Welfare Directors Letters (ACWDL) [21-32](#) and [22-24](#) for more information on AE and required county procedures. Effective November 1, 2023 applications initiated by the county in SAWS will now also be evaluated and approved for AE, when eligible.

Counties shall follow normal business processes when submitting applications through SAWS. Once SAWS submits the Eligibility Determination Request (EDR) to CalHEERS for an eligibility determination and CalHEERS determines the individual meets the criteria for AE, CalHEERS will return a Determination of Eligibility Response (DER) and post the AE (8E) in the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS). Notices explaining the individual is eligible for AE will be generated by CalHEERS and sent to the applicant.

As a reminder, counties shall follow normal business process to conduct an ex parte review and request verifications if necessary following the Second Contact process outlined in [ACWDL 22-12](#) for individuals placed in AE. As AE is temporary coverage pending the final eligibility determination, the individuals will be approved or denied Medi-Cal following the normal application processing rules. Individuals found eligible for Medi-Cal will be placed in the appropriate MAGI Medi-Cal aid code. Counties continue to be responsible for sending the final Notice of Action (NOA) when the individual is approved for Medi-Cal or denied for the reason of failing to provide the necessary verifications.

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For those individuals who are determined to be over the income limit for Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) after verifications are provided, CalHEERS will send the final NOA explaining ineligibility for MAGI Medi-Cal.

If you have any questions, or if we can provide further information, please contact Nellie Abeleda, by phone at (916) 404-9767 or by email at Nellie.Abeleda@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Yingjia Huang
Assistant Deputy Director
Health Care and Benefits
Department of Health Care Services