

DATE: March 21, 2025

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 25-10

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

SUBJECT: UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR DETERMINING MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY
FOR THE 250 PERCENT WORKING DISABLED PROGRAM
(REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTERS [00-16](#),
[17-03](#), [11-38](#), [19-12](#), [22-14](#), [22-31](#))

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional instructions and clarification regarding the counties' responsibility in determining eligibility for the 250 Percent Working Disabled Program (250% WDP).

Background

Effective January 1, 2009, Assembly Bill 1183 (Chapter 758, Statutes of 2008) established the 250% WDP as a permanent Medi-Cal program. This program expands Medi-Cal eligibility to working disabled individuals who meet certain eligibility conditions. Applicants or members who are requesting to be evaluated for the 250% WDP must:

- Meet the federal definition of disability.
- Be working and report any paid work activity to their local county office.
- Have income below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- Meet the eligibility requirements for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/State Supplementary Payment (SSP) benefits.
- Meet all other non-financial conditions for Medi-Cal eligibility.

County Responsibility

As a reminder, counties shall use the Medi-Cal hierarchy outlined in the All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) 17-03 to determine Medi-Cal eligibility. This ensures that Medi-Cal applicants or members eligible for multiple programs are placed in the most beneficial program. In cases where the member is eligible to Medi-Cal with a shared monthly cost (share of cost), the county shall screen for the 250% WDP. The county shall also inform the member about the advantages of the program and its requirements. Counties are required to handle evaluations for the 250% WDP following county business processes. Counties are reminded that it is not appropriate to refer applicants or members to the state for the program eligibility determinations.

Revised Flyer

DHCS updated the flyer highlighting the eligibility requirements and advantages of the 250% WDP. Counties are encouraged to use the information contained in the flyer when discussing the 250% WDP program with members and applicants. For additional information regarding the 250% WDP eligibility requirements, please refer to [ACWDL 19-12](#). DHCS would like to remind counties that effective January 1, 2024, the asset limits for all Non-MAGI programs were eliminated and to reference [ACWDL 22-25](#) for additional guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this letter, please contact the Non-MAGI unit at NonMAGIInbox@dhcs.ca.gov. County questions regarding policy guidance should be sent to MCED-Policy@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Sarah Crow
Division Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division
Department of Health Care Services

Enclosure

250 Percent Working Disabled Program

A Free Medi-Cal Program for Workers with Disabilities

The 250 Percent Working Disabled Program (250% WDP) helps individuals with disabilities qualify for free Medi-Cal without a shared monthly cost.

How to apply:

- If you are already receiving Medi-Cal and have a shared monthly cost, contact your local county office to see if you qualify for this program.
- You do not need a separate application for this program.

To qualify, you must:

- Be disabled as defined by Social Security Administration (SSA). If you have not had a disability decision yet, ask your local county office for help.
- You must do some type of work. This includes self-employment, or working for a friend, relative, or neighbor.
- Provide proof that you are working. A note from the person you are working for that says how much they pay you is enough. You do not need a formal pay stub.
- Have a total income that is less than 250% of the federal poverty level.
- Meet the income rules for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or State Supplementary Payment (SSP) programs. You do not have to receive SSI/SSP income to qualify.

Benefits of Enrolling in the 250% WDP:

- This program has a higher income limit than other Medi-Cal programs and some income may not count.
- Disability-related income is not counted to qualify for this program. Examples of disability income include Social Security Disability Insurance, State Disability Insurance, private disability benefits, Disabled Widow(er) and Adult Child benefits, or Workers Compensation.
- Social Security disability income is not counted when you retire and change to Social Security retirement income.
- This program has flexible work requirements with no minimum hours or earnings. You can do any kind of work, like recycling bottles and cans, caring for someone's pet, or providing childcare for children other than your own.
- Get access to medical care and In-Home Supportive Services benefits without a shared monthly cost.

Extra benefits for individuals receiving both Medicare and Medi-Cal (dually eligible):

- Medi-Cal pays for Medicare Part B monthly premiums, yearly deductibles, and Medicare cost sharing. Medi-Cal also pays for Medicare Part A monthly premiums for certain members. You can find more information on MSPs at: www.dhcs.ca.gov/MSPCal.
- You will be automatically eligible for the Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy program (also known as Extra Help).

Want to Learn More or Apply?

If you are a current Medi-Cal member with a shared monthly cost or might qualify for Medi-Cal and would like to be evaluated for the 250% WDP please contact your local county office.

Find your local county office contact here: www.dhcs.ca.gov/COL or by calling 1-800-541-5555.