



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

December 29, 2004

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 04-38
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL QMB/SLMB/QI COUNTY COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS-1
SUNSET DATE TO NOVEMBER 20, 2004
(Ref: All County Welfare Directors Letters Nos. 98-08, 98-15,
98-47, 98-60, 99-14, 99-43, 99-61, 03-02, 03-20, 03-51, and 04-11)

This letter notifies counties of the extension of the Qualifying Individuals-1 (QI-1) program sunset date to November 20, 2004.

The QI-1 program provides payment of the Medicare Part B premium for individuals with income below 135 percent of the federal poverty level. The QI-1 program was originally scheduled to sunset December 31, 2002, but Congress has granted a number of temporary extensions. The QI-1 program sunset date has again been extended, this time to November 20, 2004, and there is every indication that it will be extended beyond this date.

Counties are to continue accepting applications and determining eligibility for the QI-1 program until the Department of Health Services (DHS) notifies them that the QI-1 program has been discontinued. If the QI-1 program is discontinued, DHS will: notify the county 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 the QI-1; and send the counties a listing of discontinued QI-1s so that the county systems can be updated.

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DHS will continue to keep county staff updated on the status of the QI-1 program. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Ms. Vicki Partington of my staff, at (916) 552-9496 or Email Vparting@dhs.ca.gov.

Original signed by

Tameron Mitchell, R.D., M.P.H., Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch