



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

April 29, 2008

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 08-18  
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS  
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES  
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW HEALTHY FAMILIES TO MEDI-CAL  
PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY PROGRAM (5E) (REFERENCE: ALL  
COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTOR'S LETTER 07-15)

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of a new aid code for the Healthy Families (HF) Presumptive Eligibility (PE) aid code 5E.

Background

The HF to Medi-Cal Bridge program was discontinued on August 1, 2007, and the HF to Medi-Cal Presumptive Eligibility (PE) program replaced the Bridge. Initially this change was implemented through an expansion of the current Accelerated Medi-Cal (AE) process under aid code 8E with the case information currently used for the HF to Medi-Cal Bridge serving as a Medi-Cal application. The aid code used by the HF to Medi-Cal Bridge program, 7Y, is no longer used on cases transitioning to Medi-Cal from HF (the last cases were transitioned from 7Y to 8E in December 2007).

As with the the current process under 8E, Medi-Cal eligibility under 5E will continue until a final determination of Medi-Cal eligibility is made. Action by the county is required to discontinue 5E eligibility.

### Implementation

The implementation date for 5E is the July 2008 month of eligibility. Counties are not expected to have this new aid code automated by July 2008, but counties must ensure that referrals received from the HF program are not rejected. This process will be manual for now until automation changes can be made to facilitate the exchange of information between the HF program and counties.

For the new HF to Medi-Cal PE program, the HF to Medi-Cal Bridge referral process from HF to the counties will remain as it is for now except:

- The child potentially eligible for Medi-Cal will be placed in aid code 5E instead of 8E.
- Medi-Cal eligibility under 5E will continue until a Medi-Cal determination has been completed.
- Counties will use processes similar to those used for 8E to interact with MEDS, send notices of action, etc.
- Transmittals for the HF to Medi-Cal PE cases will include a PE start date and will be populated in the "AE Start Date" column, which will be the first of the month following HF disenrollment.
- The Medi-Cal application date will be the PE start date.
- Cases will now appear on the Exception Eligibles report under a separate grouping for 5E.

### Reminder about the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 Citizenship and Identity Verification Requirements

The HF to Medi-Cal PE process under 5E is exempt from the DRA citizenship/identity verification requirements during the PE period. This PE period concludes once a Medi-Cal determination has been made and would therefore include the reasonable opportunity period required under DRA. The signed HF AER form transmitted to the counties serves as proof of identity for children under 16 years of age.

If the reasonable period concludes and the family cannot provide citizenship/identity documentation for the child, the child shall be granted limited scope benefits per the instructions given in ACWDL 07-12.

Ten-day notice is not required, but a notice of action informing the family of the final outcome of the Medi-Cal determination shall be sent. The PE coverage ends on the last day of the month in which the Medi-Cal determination is made. If you have questions about this letter, please call Ms. Leanna Pierson at (916) 552-9447.

Original Signed By:

Vivian Auble, Chief  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division