



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

July 31, 2008

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER NO.: 08-33
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY QMB/SLMB/QI COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL 1 PROGRAM
SUNSET DATE TO DECEMBER 31, 2009
(Reference All County Welfare Directors Letter Nos.: 98-08, 98-15,
98-47, 98-60, 99-14, 99-43, 99-61, 03-02, 03-20, 03-51, 04-11, 04-38,
05-37, 07-32, 08-08)

This letter serves to notify counties that on July 1, 2008, H.R. 6331 was signed into law, which extends the Qualifying Individuals-1 (QI-1) sunset date to December 31, 2009.

The QI-1 program provides the State payment of the Medicare Part B premiums 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.

Because the QI-1 program has been extended many times, counties are to continue accepting applications and determining eligibility for the QI-1 program until the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) notifies them that the QI-1 program has been discontinued. If the QI-1 program is discontinued, DHCS 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 QI-1 individuals.
- Send a listing of discontinued QI-1s so that County systems can be updated.

DHCS 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. Debra J. Hader at (916) 552-9494 or e-mail dhader@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By:

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division