



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

September 5, 2008

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 08-38
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: COUNTY EXCEPTION ELIGIBLE REPORTS: AID CODE 8X PENDING
APPLICATIONS FOR CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION
GATEWAY PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will include Aid Code 8X, Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Gateway Healthy Families Program (HFP) on the County Exception Eligible (EE) report. The inclusion of Aid Code 8X in the EE report will assist counties with those applications processed by the county when the child was originally screened by CHDP provider to be income eligible for HFP. This change is necessary to eliminate the indefinite Presumptive Eligibility period (Runaway 8X) for the child when the county has completed the eligibility determination. Counties should be able to view information for the Aid Code 8X population on the EE report with the September 2008 month of eligibility.

Background

The CHDP Gateway initiates a Presumptive Eligibility (PE) transaction to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) when a child visits a CHDP health care provider and the provider determines the child meets the requirements of the CHDP program. Based on the family's income, the child is screened to be presumptively eligible to either Medi-Cal, under Aid Code 8W, or HFP, under Aid Code 8X. The CHDP Gateway PE provides temporary Medi-Cal to the child for two months (month of CHDP eligibility and the following month) pending a formal Medi-Cal or HFP application for the child. MEDS programming for CHDP Gateway PE establishes a discontinuance date at the end of

the two months if either the county or HFP did not take action to report an application for the child.

When either entity receives an application for the PE child, a transaction is generated to MEDS which extends the child's temporary Medi-Cal benefits until either Medi-Cal or HFP completes the eligibility determination. The CHDP Gateway rules state that if the county or Single Point of Entry (SPE) receives an application within the current or subsequent month of the original CHDP Gateway eligibility period and there is no determination made by either the county or HFP at the end of the second month, the child's temporary benefits through CHDP Gateway PE would be extended until there is an eligibility determination. The child's continued CHDP Gateway PE benefits on MEDS is included in the EE reports to alert the counties or HF of the child's pending application.

EE Reports

Prior to September 2008, the county's monthly EE reports only reflected Aid Code 8Ws. Aid Code 8Xs (child screened eligible for HFP) were placed on the EE report for the HFP Administrative Vendor for review, regardless of an application being processed by either entity (Counties or SPE). Because Aid Code 8X is a HFP Aid Code and counties do not have the capability to complete MEDS transactions to terminate 8X eligibility, even when the child has already been determined Medi-Cal eligible, the child would remain eligible under Aid Code 8X for an indefinite period of time.

In an effort to assist counties in following-up on the children's eligibility under Aid Code 8X when applications are being processed by the county, the county EE report will now show CHDP-GTWY-8W/8X for Aid Code 8W and 8X. Additionally, programming changes have been made to change the County-ID field on MEDS to reflect that the child's application is being processed by the county. The MEDS ID will show the county's case number instead of the child's Client Identification Number (CIN).

Counties should note that Aid Code 8W will remain a CIN-based County-ID. There will be no conversion of the existing runaway Aid Code 8Xs due to county-initiated transactions to the county EE report from the HFP EE report. There will be no new alerts generated by MEDS as part of this change, however, the volume of the existing alerts to the counties on the CHDP Gateway aid codes will increase. Aid Code 8X will continue to be an invalid aid code on county eligibility and application transactions. DHCS has completed the installation changes to MEDS after the August 2008 Renewal with the September month of eligibility reports.

All County Welfare Directors Letter No.: 08-38
Page 3
September 5, 2008

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Coleen Keelan by email at Coleen.Keelan@dhcs.ca.gov or by telephone at (916) 445-4062. If you have any questions regarding CHDP Gateway, please contact Ms. Kathleen Yelle by email at Kathleen.Yelle@dhcs.ca.gov or by telephone at (916) 552-9489.

Original Signed By:

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division