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Director

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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

October 13, 2009

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 09-48
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIASENS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: RESCIND THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM (HFP) WAIT LIST
Ref: All County Welfare Director's Letter (ACWDL) 09-39

The purpose of this letter is to provide notification to counties that on September 16, 2009, the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) had sufficient funds to avoid disenrolling children during the Annual Eligibility Review process and to open the program to new enrollment. This letter, therefore, rescinds policy instructions issued on July 16, 2009, in ACWDL No.09-39 regarding the HFP Wait List for children. The rescission of the HFP Wait List was made possible with the passage of Assembly Bill 1422 that provided revenues for the HFP along with funding commitment from the First Five Commission. The HFP has opened the program to enrollment on September 17, 2009, and has already begun processing applications from the waiting list.

MRMIB is estimating that the HFP will take approximately 30 business days to process all the applications for the wait-listed children and to notify families as to their children's eligibility. All applications are being processed based on the date of application, with the oldest application being processed first. If the child is eligible for HFP and is enrolled in HFP, the actual start date of coverage begins 10 calendar days after the child is enrolled. In the event HFP determines that the income is below the HFP guidelines based on the acceptable proof of income that is used (i.e. family might provide new income documentation that was not previously submitted with the original application), the HFP will forward the application to the county welfare department (CWD). The CWD transmittal will preserve and identify the original application received date at Single Point of Entry.

There is no change to the current Medi-Cal to HFP referral process, including the Medi-Cal to HFP Bridging Program. Counties shall continue to forward all HFP eligible children to the HFP at initial Medi-Cal determination and Annual Redetermination when a child is determined to be share-of-cost eligible, but the family income is within the HFP income guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Rose Pankratz, of my staff, at (916) 650-0140 or rose.pankratz@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division