

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

Letter No.: 86-57

SUBJECT: LYNCH V. RANK (PICKLE) TICKLER SYSTEM

This is to notify all County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the planned implementation of the statewide automated Pickle Tickler System.

Background

Under the terms of the 1983 Permanent Injunction issued by the U.S. District Court in the Lynch v. Rank case, all CWDs were required to develop and maintain a tickler system to allow for future notification of all potential Pickle eligibles. This county tickler system must contain the names and current addresses of any aged, blind or disabled medically needy person with Title II income who is determined by the CWD to be potentially Pickle eligible. See attached All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) No. 83-74 for specific details.

The injunction further required that after CWDs had correctly identified the potentially eligible population, the Department of Health Services (DHS) would use the CWD information to prepare a statewide automated Pickle Tickler System.

Description

The automated Pickle Tickler System is designed to accomplish the following:

- o Establish a permanent means of identifying and tracking the status of those individuals who are potentially Pickle eligible via a Pickle Tickler code on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) database.
- o Provide the means to select all appropriate records from the MEDS database to provide the counties with a listing of all individuals who must be contacted each year at the time of the annual, Social Security Retirement, Survivors Disability Insurance (RSDI) cost of living increase, (COLA).

- o Provide the CWDs with the means to update the Pickle Tickler status and related information as needed, on an ongoing basis. For example, beneficiaries who request, in writing, that their names be removed from the list of those receiving notices can be coded with a status of "2", Beneficiary has requested not to be contacted. These individuals will remain in a Pickle Tickler status on MEDS but their names will be excluded from the annual listings sent to the counties.

This system must be in place by December 31, 1986 in order to comply with the requirements of the Lynch v. Rank Court Order. The following action is necessary to accomplish this.

County Action

Effective immediately, counties must begin preparations to provide this Department with the records of those individuals who are currently in their county tickler system. The Department plans to be able to accept and process this information beginning December 1, 1986. CWDs will be able to submit this information either via the batch/tape process or through online updates. This information must be received no later than December 23, 1986.

To accomplish transmission of the data a new transaction, EW60, is being developed. Attached is a copy of the batch specifications, the EW60 screen, and a description of the required and optional data elements needed for this transaction. For the initial load, all records should be coded as Pickle type "P", Potential Pickle Eligible per County. Also, to simplify county programming for this initial load, CWDs that choose to submit the information via batch input may code all records with a Pickle status of "1", Beneficiary is a Potential Pickle Eligible. Modifications to the Pickle status can then be submitted at a later date, as needed.

With the implementation of this system, the Department will be able to maintain all Pickle Tickler information on MEDS. Beginning January 1988, the Department intends to assume the responsibility of mailing the notices to all potential Pickle eligibles. Given the above, CWDs may wish to consider using batch input transactions only for the initial loading of the Pickle status information and then use online transactions for the ongoing modification of Pickle status information.

All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
Page 3

State Action

On January 2, 1987 the Department will mail CWDs a listing of all individuals who must be contacted by the county. This listing will contain the following information if available:

name
address
MEDS identification number
county identification number
district
eligibility worker code
case name
sex
date of birth
date last received SSI

These individuals must have an eligibility redetermination completed by February 1987. Depending upon the results of this redetermination, the appropriate notice must be sent as stated in ACWDL No. 83-74.

Please contact Kristi Banion at (916) 324-4961 if you have any questions on Potential Pickle policy. Questions on the Pickle Tickler system should be directed to your state MEDS liaison.

Sincerely,

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Attachments

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants
MEDS Liaisons

Expiration Date: December 31, 1987

CHAPTER 6 - COUNTY ONLINE PROCEDURES

EW60

SCREEN FORMAT

EW60	** MODIFY PICKLE STATUS INFORMATION **	XXX - MM/DD/YY
CASE-NAME _____	DISTRICT _____	EW-CODE _____
COUNTY-ID:		
PER-MEDS _____		
MEDS-ID _____	BIRTHDATE _____	
PICKLE-STATUS _	SSI-LAST-RECEIVED _____	PICKLE TYPE _
NEW COUNTY-ID: COUNTY _____		
ADDRESS: LINE-1 _____		
LINE-2 _____		
CITY/STATE _____	ZIP-CODE _____	
PHONE-NO (***) ***-****		

CHAPTER 6 - COUNTY ONLINE PROCEDURES

EW60

6.3.13 EW60 - Modify Pickle Status Information

PURPOSE

The EW60 transaction is used to update Pickle Tickler status information for all potential Pickle eligibles and to update the address and change current county information for inactive potential Pickle eligibles.

USAGE CONSIDERATIONS

- o If the recipient shows a pending or current active status on MEDS, only the latest responsible county can update the Pickle Tickler status information. The county code in the EW60 County ID must match the latest responsible county on the MEDS database.
- o Any county can submit an EW60 for an inactive recipient. If the current MEDS database County ID is for your county, the EW60 may be submitted with that County ID. If there is a federal format County ID (county-aid-9-SSN with aid code 10, 20, or 60) on the MEDS Cross Reference File for your county, it may be used on the EW60. If there is no federal format County ID on the MEDS Cross Reference File for your county and the current County ID on MEDS is not for your county, then the NEW-COUNTY-ID COUNTY must be entered and the COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS must be a federal format County ID from the MEDS Cross Reference File.
- o CASE-NAME, DISTRICT, EW-CODE, and ADDRESS will update MEDS only if the MEDS database shows NO pending or current active eligibility status.
- o If a COLA terminated recipient is reported eligible by the county with an aid code 16, 26, or 66, the Pickle Tickler status information will be automatically set to indicate that they are a potential Pickle eligible. A separate EW60 is not needed in this instance.

CHAPTER 6 - COUNTY ONLINE PROCEDURES

EW60

DATA ELEMENTS

ENTRY ACTIONS

- | DATA ELEMENTS | ENTRY ACTIONS |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. CASE-NAME | Optional. 1/
Enter the case name using up to 18 alpha/numeric characters. |
| 2. DISTRICT | Optional. 1/
Enter county district code using up to 3 alpha/numeric characters. |
| 3. EW-CODE | Optional. 1/
Enter eligibility worker code using up to 4 alpha/numeric characters. |
| 4. COUNTY-ID:
PER-MEDS | Required.
Enter the full 14 digit county identification number. This number must be known to MEDS. If the MEDS record shows either a pending or current active status, the county code must match MEDS. If a new county code is entered in the NEW-COUNTY-ID COUNTY, the COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS must be in the federal format (county-aid-9-SSN with aid code 10, 20, or 60). |
| 5. MEDS-ID | Required.
Enter the 9 position MEDS-ID. |
| 6. BIRTHDATE | Required.
Enter the birthdate in 7 digits in the format MMDDYYYY. For example, May 2, 1904 is entered as 0502904. |
| 7. PICKLE-STATUS | Required.
Enter the 1 digit numeric code that identifies the current status of a potential Pickle eligible.

<div style="margin-left: 40px;"> 1 Beneficiary is a Potential Pickle Eligible
 2 Beneficiary Has Requested Not To Be Contacted
 3 Loss of Contact/Whereabouts Unknown
 7 Beneficiary IS NOT a Potential Pickle Eligible
 (Used to eliminate erroneous Pickle Tickler information on MEDS)
 9 Beneficiary is Deceased </div> |

1/ Will not update if MEDS shows a pending or current active status.

CHAPTER 6 - COUNTY ONLINE PROCEDURES

EW50

DATA ELEMENTS	ENTRY ACTIONS
8. SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	Optional. Enter a 4 digit date in the format MMYT indicating the month and year when the recipient last received an SSI/SSP payment. This field may be used either to report information when there is no date on MEDS or to correct an incorrect date on MEDS.
9. PICKLE-TYPE	Optional. Enter the 1 digit alpha code that identifies the type of potential Pickle eligibility. Required when there is no existing Pickle Tickler information on MEDS. (Note: Other values are to be added later.) P Potential Pickle Eligible per County
10. NEW-COUNTY-ID: COUNTY	Optional. Enter the 2 digit code that identifies your county. This field is used only when a potential Pickle eligible has moved and is not Medi-Cal eligible in the new county. This field is used to update the current county code on MEDS so that when the annual Pickle Tickler report is prepared, the information will be sent to the most recent county of residence. When this field is entered, the COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS must be a federal format County ID (county-aid-9-SSN with aid code 10, 20, or 60).
11. ADDRESS	Optional. 1/ If any part of the address is entered, Line-2, City/State, and ZIP Code are required.
LINE-1	Enter care-of information, if needed, in 26 or less alpha/numeric characters beginning with C/O.
LINE-2	Enter the street address in 26 or less alpha/numeric characters.
CITY/STATE	Enter the city and state in 20 or less alpha/numeric characters.
ZIP-CODE	Enter the 5 digit numeric ZIP Code.

1/ Will not update if MEDS shows a pending or current active status.

CHAPTER 6 - COUNTY ONLINE PROCEDURES

EW60

DATA ELEMENTS

ENTRY ACTIONS

12. PHONE-NO

NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. This field will be made available as an optional item once space has been allocated for it on the MFDS database.

CHAPTER 8 - COUNTY BATCH PROCEDURES

EW60

8.3.10 EW60 - Modify Pickle Status Information

PURPOSE

The EW60 transaction is used to update Pickle Tickler status information for all potential Pickle eligibles and to update the address and change current county information for inactive potential Pickle eligibles.

USAGE CONSIDERATIONS

- o It is anticipated that, on an ongoing basis, most counties will update Pickle Tickler status information via online updates since Pickle Tickler information will no longer need to be maintained at the county level. For the initial loading of Pickle Tickler status information on all existing potential Pickle eligibles, some counties may want to use batch input transactions.
- o If the recipient shows a pending or current active status on MEDS, only the latest responsible county can update the Pickle Tickler status information. The county code in the EW60 County ID must match the latest responsible county on the MEDS database.
- o Any county can submit an EW60 for an inactive recipient. If the current MEDS database County ID is for your county, the EW60 may be submitted with that County ID. If there is a federal format County ID (county-aid-9-SSN with aid code 10, 20, or 60) on the MEDS Cross Reference File for your county, it may be used on the EW60. If there is no federal format County ID on the MEDS Cross Reference File for your county and the current County ID on MEDS is not for your county, then the NEW-COUNTY-ID COUNTY must be entered and the COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS must be a federal format County ID from the MEDS Cross Reference File.
- o CASE-NAME, DISTRICT, EW-CODE, and ADDRESS will update MEDS only if the MEDS database shows NO pending or current active eligibility status.
- o If a COLA terminated recipient is reported eligible by the county with an aid code 16, 26, or 66, the Pickle Tickler status information will be automatically set to indicate that they are a potential Pickle eligible. A separate EW60 is not needed in this instance.

CHAPTER 8 - COUNTY BATCH PROCEDURES

EW60

HEADER DATA ELEMENTS	POSITION	LENGTH	COMMENTS
MEDS TRANS CODE	01 - 04	4	Required - 'EW60'.
PASSWORD	05 - 08	4	Required.
CREATION-DATE	09 - 13	5	Required. Julian date format - YYDDD.
BATCH-SEQUENCE-NUMBER	14 - 16	3	Required.
CONTINUATION-SEQ-NUM	17	1	Required.
MEDS-ID	18 - 26	9	Required.
COUNTY-ID	27 - 40	14	Required. This number must be known to MEDS. If the MEDS record shows either a pending or current active status, the county code must match MEDS. If a new county code is entered in the NEW-COUNTY-ID COUNTY, the header County ID must be a federal format County ID (county-aid-9-SSN with aid code 10, 20, or 60).
BIRTHDATE	41 - 47		Required. Calendar date format - MMDDYYYY.

CHAPTER 8 - COUNTY BATCH PROCEDURES

EN60

DATA ELEMENTS	DED NO.	COMMENTS
CASE-NAME	0225	Optional. 1/
DISTRICT	0240	Optional. 1/
EW-CODE	0220	Optional. 1/
PICKLE-STATUS	2014	Required. Acceptable values are: 1 - Beneficiary is a Potential Pickle Eligible 2 - Beneficiary Has Requested Not To Be Contacted 3 - Loss of Contact/Whereabouts Unknown 7 - Beneficiary IS NOT a Potential Pickle Eligible (Used to eliminate erroneous Pickle Tickler information on MEDS) 9 - Beneficiary is Deceased
SSI-LAST-RECEIVED	2010	Optional. Format is MMY.
PICKLE-TYPE	1705	Optional, BUT Required on first update. Currently the only acceptable value is: P - Potential Pickle Eligible per County.
NEW-COUNTY-ID: COUNTY	0175	Optional.
ADDRESS:		Optional. 1/ If any address fields are entered, LINE-2, CITY/STATE, and ZIP-CODE are required.
LINE-1	0310	
LINE-2	0315	
CITY/STATE	0320	
ZIP-CODE	0325	
PHONE-NO		Not Currently Available; to be added later.

1/ Will not update if MEDS shows a pending or current active status.