

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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P.O. BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234 7320



February 11, 1993

TO: All County Welfare Directors Letter No.: 93-08
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons

SUBJECT: Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB), Supersession of
All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) No.: 92-81, SLMB AID
Code Delay, SLMB E-Mail Form, and SLMB 110% Income

This letter supersedes ACWDL 92-81. ACWDL 92-81 was incorrect in stating that the Department of Health Services (DHS) will pay Medicare Part B premiums from State funds for dually eligible SLMBs (individuals receiving Medi-Cal after meeting their share of cost or without a share of cost). It should have stated that the State can now obtain federal financial participation (FFP) for Part B premiums for Medically Needy-Only individuals who are eligible for the SLMB Program.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the counties that the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) aid code 8C has been delayed. We will be implementing the SLMB Program using the manual Electronic Mail Communication Center (EMC2) system, "E-Mail for QDWI/SLMB". The new "E-Mail for QDWI/SLMB" screen will be used to notify the Premium Payment Unit of QDWI or SLMB eligibles. The EMC2 screen will be operational January 1, 1993, in lieu of the new Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) aid code 8c.

Background

Section 4501 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) 1990, Public Law 101-508 requires states to phase in payment of Medicare Part B premiums for certain specified low-income Medicare beneficiaries beginning January 1, 1993. Unlike the QMB Program, states are not required to pay coinsurance or deductibles for SLMB eligibles. SLMBs have three months of retroactive eligibility up to January 1, 1993.

Dual Eligibility

Although Medi-Cal "buys-in" for Medically Needy-Only (MNO) beneficiaries because it is cost effective, the Medi-Cal Program currently does not receive FFP for payment of Part B premiums for MNOs. Once the SLMB Program is implemented, however, FFP will become available for MNOs who are also eligible for the SLMB Program. Thus, it is to the State's advantage to enroll these individuals with Part B benefits as SLMB if eligible. Regular Medi-Cal eligibility is reported through MEDS for dual eligibles; however, SLMB eligibility will be reported through E-Mail until the aid code is operational.

Reporting Eligibility

Counties may report SLMB eligibility via the EMC2 screen at any time. However, because the system is a manual system, only the first 25 of those reported eligible by the 17th of the month are allowed by HCFA to be submitted for accretion each month. Those reported eligible by counties above the 25 and those reported after the 17th of the month will be submitted to HCFA for accretion during the following month with retroactive eligibility for the reported month.

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Counties can grant three months retroactive benefits to eligible individuals according to ACWDL 92-61. SLMB eligibility cannot be reported prior to January 1, 1993 when the program goes into effect. Counties may contact the Premium Payment Unit regarding the status of SLMBs or to correct or revise a SLMB record through E-Mail. Use the E-Mail address "Buy-In".

EMC2 Screen

Enclosed is a copy of the "E-Mail for QDWI/SLMB" screen and its instructions. To access the EMC2 screen for QDWIs/SLMBs sign on through MEDS, at the EMC2 User Menu, select option "B" or bulletin board. The QDWI/SLMB form is located under option "Forms". The first screen to appear will be the "E-Mail for QDWI/SLMB" screen. Complete all applicable fields. A second screen provides instructions for accreting or deleting eligibles within the required fields. Counties are to use the EMC2, "E-Mail for QDWI/SLMB" starting January 1, 1993.

Note: The following calculations cover the 110 percent of poverty level income figures for the SLMB Program. These figures do not include the \$20 any income disregard. They will be superseded by the 1993 Federal Poverty Level Chart effective 4/1/93.

<u>PERSONS</u>	<u>110% SLMB INCOME</u>
1	\$625
2	843
2 Adults	843
3	1,061
4	1,279
5	1,497
6	1,716
7	1,934
8	2,152
9	2,370
10	2,588
Each additional	219

If you have any questions regarding the SLMB Program, please contact Sylvia Finberg of my staff at (916) 657-0080. For questions regarding QDWI/SLMB additions or deletions, please contact Ana Ramirez of the Premium Payment Unit at (916) 323-9539.

Sincerely,

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosure

From: HDABRIN --DHSEMC2
TO: ABRINSEI--HW1

Date and time 12/11/92 10:43:00

To: BUYIN, HS.MEB.AL.BRINSFIELD@DHSEMC2
From: HS.MEB.AL.BRINSFIELD@DHSEMC2
Subject: "E Mail for QDWI/SLMB"

Subject: QDWI/SLMB Buy-In Action Request Date Dec 11 92 Fri

- 1) QDWI ☐ or SLMB ☐
- 2) SSN - - 3) Birthdate - - 4) Sex
- 5) Last Name 6) First Name 7) MI
- 8) HIC Number 9) Eff. Date of Action - -
- 10) Buy-In: Part A ☐ or, Part B ☐
- 11) Action (check one) ☐ Add ☐ Delete ☐ Change
- 12) Date of death (if Deceased) - -
- 13) County No. 14) District No. 15) EW No.
- 16) EW Name 17) Phone () - -

Press PF8 to page down to instructions for completing this form.

NOTE: Additions or deletions to the QDWI/SLMB program must be received by the Premium Payment Unit between the 15th and 17th of the month to be effective the first of the following month.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Check one, QDWI or SLMB
- 2) Nine digit Social Security Number
- 3) Month/Date/Year
- 4) Female=2 Male=1
- 5) First 12 positions
- 6) First 7 positions
- 7) Middle initial
- 8) Health Insurance Claim (HIC) number
- 9) Month/Date/Year
- 10) Buy-In: check Part A, or Part B
- 11) Place an X for add, delete, or change
- 12) Month/Date/Year
- 13) County Number (2-digit numeric)
- 14) County District Number (3-digit alpha/numeric)
- 15) Eligibility Worker's number (4-digit alpha/numeric)
- 16) Eligibility Worker's Name
- 17) Area Code, EW's phone number

Press PF4 to mail your request to Premium Payment Unit and yourself!!