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February 23, 2010

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 10-03

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS

SUBJECT: USE OF MEDS SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER-VERIFICATION
FIELD (SSN-VER) CODES TO VERIFY THE SSN

PURPOSE

The purpose of this letter is to advise county welfare departments of a change in the policy which allows Eligibility Workers (EWs) to verify an applicant/beneficiary's SSN based on a Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) printout indicating a J code in the SSN-VER in situations where an SSN card is not available. This policy change is necessary because MEDS' SSN Verification Code values were redefined as part of the recently implemented daily SSN verification process via the federal State Verification and Exchange System (SVES).

BACKGROUND

The federal Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 included a provision effective January 2010 that allows states to meet the Deficit Reduction Act citizenship and identity verification requirements via a SSN match with the Social Security Administration (SSA) which will return citizenship verification status when available in SSA records. In order to take advantage of this simpler method of verifying citizenship and identity, MEDS changes were needed to replace the semi-annual SSN validation process via the SSA's old Enumeration Verification System (EVS) with a daily SSN verification process via the newer SVES. Implementation of the daily SSN verification process through SVES began September 25, 2009.

In order to provide better information regarding SSN Verification status and to clearly identify SSNs that have been verified via the new SVES SSN Verification Process, the old alpha SSN Verification Code values were assigned new meanings. Three of the old alpha codes (W, X and Y) were redefined to identify the SSN verification status of SSNs processed via the EVS SSN Verification or Referral processes and all existing MEDS records that had alpha values were updated to reflect one of those three values. While J was the most frequently occurring value, there were eight old SSN-VER code values that identified a verified SSN (A, B, C, D, J, K, L and M). All MEDS records with one of those values were changed to show a SSN-VER code W. The new W, X and Y SSN-VER code values are temporary values until those SSNs are reverified via the SVES SSN Verification Process, which will occur on a flow basis during 2010.

USE OF THE NEW SSN-VER CODES TO VERIFY THE SSN

Policy developed during the previous semi-annual SSN validation process allowed EWs to verify an applicant's/beneficiary's SSN with a MEDS printout indicating a J code in the SSN-VER field in situations where a Social Security Card was not available. The changes in the SSN-VER codes associated with the new SVES SSN Verification Process necessitate changes in this policy.

The new SSN-VER code A is equivalent to the old SSN-VER code J and so a MEDS printout dated after September 25, 2009, with an A SSN-VER code may be used by EWs to verify an applicant's/beneficiary's SSN in situations where a Social Security Card is not available.

Until SSNs with an SSN-VER code W are reverified via the SVES SSN Verification Process, a MEDS printout dated after September 25, 2009, with a W SSN-VER code may also be used by EWs to verify an applicant's/beneficiary's SSN in situations where a Social Security Card is not available.

Since the new SSN-VER code J no longer indicates a verified SSN, MEDS printouts dated after September 25, 2009, with a J SSN-VER code may no longer be used by EWs to verify an applicant's/beneficiary's SSN in situations where a Social Security Card is not available.

Please Note: The Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) Abstract report (RS-IEV410-R001) shows two SSN Verification Codes. The first one (in the top section) is a generated value based on the IEVS response. It does not use the shared logic used for MEDS SSN-VER codes, and therefore, cannot be used in accordance with the policy stated above until that logic is corrected (watch upcoming Change Cycle letters for installation of the IEVS correction). The second SSN Verification Code (in the section labeled MEDS/CDB File) is taken from MEDS so it can be used in accordance with the policy stated above.

The following chart provides the old and new definitions of each SSN-VER code. Note: User-reported SSN-VER code values and definitions of those values have not changed.

SSN-VER Code	Definition Prior to Implementation of SVES SSN Verification (Old/Obsolete Definition)	Definition After Implementation of SVES SSN Verification (Current Definition)
0	Used on certain input transactions to indicate that the SSN Verification status was previously reported to MEDS	Used on certain input transactions to indicate that the SSN Verification status was previously reported to MEDS
1	SSN reported by client, not sight verified, no SSA referral initiated	SSN reported by client, not sight verified, no SSA referral initiated
2	SSN application filed at SSA district office, confirmation received by reporting entity	SSN application filed at SSA district office, confirmation received by reporting entity
3	SSN reported by client, sight verified by reporting entity	SSN reported by client, sight verified by reporting entity
5	SSN reported by client, not sight verified, SSA referral initiated	SSN reported by client, not sight verified, SSA referral initiated
6	Client does not have an SSN, SSA referral initiated	Client does not have an SSN, SSA referral initiated
7	No valid SSN verification status reported by entity reporting the SSN to MEDS	No valid SSN verification status reported by entity reporting the SSN to MEDS
8	Client does not have an SSN and cannot get one - undocumented person	Client does not have an SSN and cannot get one - undocumented person
9	SSN not initially reported by client	SSN not initially reported by client
A	SSN validated via SSA Referral process	SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match – SSA birthdate exactly matches MEDS
B	SSN validated via SSA Referral process, birthdate discrepancy identified	SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match when surname was ignored – SSA birthdate exactly matches MEDS
C	SSN validated via SSA Referral process, sex discrepancy identified	SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match – SSA birthdate does not exactly match MEDS
D	SSN validated via SSA Referral process, sex and birthdate discrepancy identified	SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match when surname was ignored - SSA birthdate does not exactly match MEDS
E		SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match – SSA birthdate not available for exact MEDS match check
F		SSN verified via SSA NUMIDENT data match when surname was ignored – SSA birthdate not available for exact MEDS match check
H		SSN verified via Title II and Title XVI data match - failed SSA NUMIDENT data match
I		SSN verified via Title II data match - failed SSA NUMIDENT data match
J	SSN validated via State Validation process	SSN verified via Title XVI data match - failed SSA NUMIDENT data match

K	SSN validated via State Validation process, birthdate discrepancy identified	SSN verified via Title II and Title XVI data match - SSN not recognized as an SSN issued by SSA in NUMIDENT data match
L	SSN validated via State Validation process, sex discrepancy identified	Verification request pending for SSN reported as sight verified
M	SSN validated via State Validation process, sex and birthdate discrepancy identified	Verification request pending for SSN reported as not sight verified
N		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on birthdate
O		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on birthdate and failed Title XVI data match
P	Previous SSN validated - SSN changed by subsequent SSI/SSP update	SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on birthdate and failed Title II data match
Q	Previously validated - birth date changed outside acceptable range	SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on birthdate and failed Title XVI and Title II data match
R	Previously validated - SSN-VER code removed by county or state staff	
S		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on surname or given name
T	Unvalidated - SSN validated via State Validation process but not applied to MEDS due to a subsequent birthdate change	SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on surname or given name and failed Title XVI data match
U	Unvalidated - SSA Referral matched MEDS but reported new SSN, county notified of need for MEDS-ID change to reflect Referral SSN	SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on surname or given name and failed Title II data match
V	Unvalidated - SSA Referral update failed due to insufficient matching fields on MEDS	SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match on surname or given name and failed Title XVI and Title II data match
W	Unvalidated - per Social Security name matched, no sex conflict, birthdate did not match	SSN identified as verified via EVS SSN verification process (old values A, B, C, D, J, K, L and M)
X	Unvalidated - per Social Security name matched, birthdate and sex did not match	MEDS previously had a SSN identified as verified via EVS SSN verification process, but either SSN or SSN verification status subsequently changed (old values P, Q and R)
Y	Unvalidated - per Social Security name did not match, birthdate and sex not checked	SSN identified as unverified via EVS SSN verification process (old values T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z)
Z	Unvalidated - per Social Security SSN not recognized as an SSN issued by SSA	
!		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match – no given name reported
%		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match – probable transcription error identified

&		SSN verification failed SSA NUMIDENT data match – SSN not recognized as an SSN issued by SSA
*		SSN identified as verified via SVES SSN verification process but SSN verification code subsequently removed by state or county staff
#		Previous SSN identified as verified via SVES SSN verification process but SSN changed by subsequent SSI/SSP update

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Alison Shull at (916) 552-9510 or by email at Alison.Shull@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By

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