



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



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

DATE: July 1, 2022

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 22-034

TO: California Alliance of Child and Family Services  
California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators  
California Association of Alcohol & Drug Program Executives, Inc.  
California Association of DUI Treatment Programs  
California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies  
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals  
California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies  
California Hospital Association  
California Opioid Maintenance Providers  
California State Association of Counties  
Coalition of Alcohol and Drug Associations  
County Behavioral Health Directors  
County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California  
County Drug & Alcohol Administrators

SUBJECT: County Submission Deadlines for CalAIM Behavioral Health Policies and Procedures

PURPOSE: This Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) clarifies the submission deadlines for county policies and procedures which are required to be updated to demonstrate the implementation of specified CalAIM Behavioral Health initiatives.

REFERENCE: Welfare & Institutions Code sections 14184.402; 14184.405; [BHIN 21-044](#); [BHIN 21-074](#); [CalAIM BHQIP Program Implementation Plan and Instructions](#); [BHIN 22-011](#); [BHIN 22-019](#).

**BACKGROUND:**

Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems, including Mental Health Plans (MHP), Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) State Plan counties, and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery Systems (DMC-ODS) counties, must demonstrate compliance with the Medi-Cal policy updates established under the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal Act (CalAIM).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Welfare and Institutions Code, § 14184.402; BHIN 22-011; BHIN 22-019.

This BHIN clarifies the deadlines for MHP, DMC State Plan counties and DMC-ODS counties to submit updated policies and procedures as specified in Table 1 below. Additionally, this BHIN sets forth specific submission requirements for all Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems regardless of participation in the Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program (BHQIP).

BHQIP is a program intended to help support the implementation of CalAIM.<sup>2</sup> Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems participating in BHQIP, referred to as participating entities, are able to receive incentive payments if they meet specified milestones and deadlines.<sup>3</sup> Meeting the specified BHQIP deadlines means: (1) the participating entity has submitted all BHQIP documentation and deliverables by the deadlines established in the [CalAIM BHQIP Program Implementation Plan and Instructions](#); and (2) DHCS has approved and determined compliance of the submitted documentation and deliverables with the CalAIM standards.

The rules and deadlines to submit updated policies and procedures to demonstrate compliance with CalAIM behavioral health policies are set forth below.

**POLICY:**

All Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems, regardless of their participation in BHQIP, must submit updated policies and procedures that demonstrate compliance with the CalAIM behavioral health policies outlined in **Table 1** below by the specified due dates.<sup>4</sup> All Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems shall use the template provided by DHCS to submit policies and procedures (Enclosure 1) to [BHQIP@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:BHQIP@dhcs.ca.gov).<sup>5</sup>

The same submission deadlines outlined in **Table 1** apply to all Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems regardless of participation in BHQIP.

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<sup>2</sup> Senate Bill (SB) 129 (Chapter 69; Statutes of 2021)

<sup>3</sup> [CalAIM BHQIP Program Implementation Plan and Instructions](#)

<sup>4</sup> Welf. & Inst. Code § 14184.402; BHIN 22-011; BHIN 22-019.

<sup>5</sup> For additional information on the BHQIP reporting requirements and submission process, please reference BHIN 21-044, BHIN 21-074 and the CalAIM BHQIP Program Implementation Plan and Instructions.

**Table 1: Due Dates for Submission of Required Policies and Procedures<sup>6</sup>**

<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Required Submission</i>
9/30/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submit updated policies and procedures reflecting the following CalAIM behavioral health policy changes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Documentation requirements and assessment standards (SMHS and DMC, DMC-ODS) (<a href="#">BHIN 22-019</a>)</li><li>• No wrong door (SMHS) (<a href="#">BHIN 22-011</a>)</li></ul></li></ul>
3/1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submit policies and procedures that describe use of standardized screening and transition tools (BHIN number TBD)</li></ul>

DHCS will review submitted policies and procedures to determine if the documents contain the requirements of the BHINs outlined in Table 1. Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems that submit incomplete policies and procedures will be required to make revisions and resubmit.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Shaina Zurlin, LCSW, PsyD, Chief  
Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division

Enclosure

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<sup>6</sup> Counties submitted P&Ps for BHINs 21-071, 21-073 and 21-075 on April 1, 2022.

**ENCLOSURE 1:  
CaAIM Policy and Procedure Template**

<b>DHCS Policy Reference BHIN Number</b>	
<b>P&amp;P Effective Date</b>	
<b>Supporting Documentation</b>	Please submit updated policies and procedures.
<b>Action Steps</b>	Please describe the action steps that will be taken to implement this policy.
<b>Approved by / Date</b>	Name: <input type="text"/> Date: <input type="text"/>