

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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August 3, 1999

MMCD All Plan Letter 99010

TO: Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans
Except County Organized Health Systems

**SUBJECT: STATUS OF THE CONVERSION TO THE FISCAL INTERMEDIARY
ACCESS TO MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY**

This letter is being sent to provide you with a status on the conversion of your Management Information Systems (MIS) to the Fiscal Intermediary Access to Medi-Cal Eligibility (FAME) as outlined in MMCD Policy Letters 98-01 and 99-05.

The Department provided two training sessions for plan MIS staff on May 12 and 19, 1999. We were very pleased with the attendance and the enthusiasm displayed by your staff. In addition, the Department's Information Technology Systems Division (ITSD) has made a commitment for technical help to assist your staff in this endeavor.

Beginning May 1999, in addition to the usual monthly eligibility tapes in the Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) format, ITSD sent eligibility tapes to plans in the FAME format. ITSD also transmitted the same file information to Electronic Data Systems (EDS) to post to the Medi-Cal Extranet for State Healthcare (MESH). In the future, your plan will receive eligibility information only through MESH, which can be accessed using a personal computer and an internet connection. By providing eligibility information in the FAME format by tape and MESH, plans can use the tape to test their MIS until the application process for MESH is completed.

Four plans in June and five in July downloaded their eligibility files from the MESH in the FAME format. As more plans complete the application for MESH, this number will increase. It is critical that your plan be able to receive eligibility data in an electronic format, as the Department will cease production of tapes before the end of the calendar year. A letter announcing this formal conversion to FAME will be sent to you in the near future.

If we can be of any further assistance, please contact Mr. Timothy Keegan, Chief of Administration, at (916) 654-8076.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susanne Hughes".

Susanne M. Hughes
Acting Chief
Medi-Cal Managed Care Division

