

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



GAVIN NEWSOM GOVERNOR

Date: March 29, 2022

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 22-06 ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS

SUBJECT: 2022 Medicare Savings Program Property Limit (Reference: 21-02, 21-29)

Effective January 1, 2022, this letter revises the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) property limit amounts to be used in determining eligibility. This guidance is effective immediately. The Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) must make programming changes for the 2022 MSP property limits during the next available SAWS release.

Counties must review all MSP denials and discontinuances back to January 1, 2022, and re-evaluate eligibility based upon the revised property limit amounts.

## **MSP 2022 Property Limits**

The property limits used to determine MSP eligibility will increase in 2022. The limits are \$8,400 for an individual and \$12,600 for a couple. Federal law sets the MSP property limits at three times the Supplemental Security income property limit plus an annual percentage increase equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Note that per Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letters (MEDILs) I 20-07, I 20-08, I 20-18, I 20-25, I 20-26 and ACWDL 21-16, counties must delay processing of Medi-Cal annual renewals, and defer discontinuances and other negative actions based on the declared State and National Emergency due to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). The county shall continue to process determinations or redeterminations for those individuals who would gain access to health care coverage and resolve barriers related to access to care.

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<u>Please note</u>: Effective July 1, 2022, the asset limits for Non-MAGI programs will increase to \$130,000 for one person, and \$65,000 for each additional person (up to a maximum of 10 people). The increased asset limits apply to Non-MAGI programs, including LTC and the MSPs. Counties shall use the revised asset limits as of July 1, 2022.

For additional information related to the asset limit changes, please see ACWDL 21-31.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Minel Tobertga by e-mail at <u>Minel.Tobertga@dhcs.ca.gov</u> or by phone at (916) 345-8075.

## **Original Signed By**

Linda Nguyen, Chief Policy Development Branch Medi-Cal Eligibility Division