

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



Date: September 14, 2022

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 22-14E

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: ERRATA TO ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER 22-14E

Background

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) erratum is to implement the guidance issued in ACWDL 22-14. ACWDL 22-14 provided guidance regarding the reduction of monthly premiums to zero dollars for all beneficiaries in the 250 Percent Working Disabled Program (250 Percent WDP), Optional Targeted Low-Income Children's Program (OTLICP), Medi-Cal Access Program (MCAP), Medi-Cal Access Infant Program (MCAIP), and County Children's Health Initiative Program (CCHIP). As a result of the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 184 (Chapter 47, Statutes of 2022), enacted June 30, 2022, this policy is effective July 1, 2022.

Implementation of this guidance found in ACWDL 22-14 is effective July 1, 2022.

Revisions to ACWDL 22-14 are recorded using the following:

- Strike-through for deleting language
- Underline and bolding for adding new language.

Below is the language from ACWDL 22-14, with the revisions located on pages one, two and three.

Purpose

Pending approval by the Legislature, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will implement this proposal on July 1, 2022. DHCS is required to seek federal approval for this change via a State Plan Amendment. The proposed change will effectively **The**

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purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide counties and the Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) with guidance to reduce all monthly premium amounts for the 250 Percent WDP, OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP to zero dollars for all enrolled participants. These changes, effective July 1, 2022, are the result of Senate Bill (SB) 184 (Chapter 47, Statutes of 2022), enacted June 30, 2022, which reduces all monthly premium amounts for the 250 Percent WDP, OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP to zero dollars for all enrolled participants. When determining program eligibility, the Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS) is no longer will be required to calculate the monthly premium payment amount. A value of zero dollars will be has been entered for the premium amount of each participant. For the 250 Percent WDP, OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP programs, premium payment status is no longer will be a condition of eligibility as long as the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) elects not to impose program premiums.

Pending approval by the Legislature, DHCS is working with SAWS to determine the changes that will need to be made to systems and Notices of Action (NOAs) to reflect the zero premium. DHCS will provide further guidance regarding any required changes to county processes and procedures at a future date. DHCS continues to work with SAWS to implement changes to systems and Notices of Action (NOA) to reflect the zero premium. MC 338E will is not be required to generate to notify beneficiaries that their premiums are reduced to zero dollars.

Pending approval by the Legislature, DHCS is working continues to work with its Medi-Cal for Families Administrative Vendor (AV), MAXIMUS, and the Third Party Liability and Recovery Division (TPLRD) to calculate and issue refunds of overpaid premiums for the 250 Percent WDP, OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP programs, respectively, to enrollees who show a positive credit balance on their account as of the July 1, 2022 effective date of this proposed policy. Upon approval of the reduction of these programs' premiums to zero dollars, DHCS will stop is no longer distributing the Non-Payment Premium (NPP) file to SAWS, and there are no longer will be additional county activities necessary relative to premium collection effectively July 1, 2022.

In addition, DHCS is working <u>continues to work</u> with our California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment, and Retention System (CalHEERS) partners, TPLRD, SAWS, and AV in identifying and updating all premium noticing and eligibility snippets to reflect the premium reduction to zero dollars for each of these programs.

NOTE: Pending approval by the Legislature, The removal of premium language in CalHEERS is complete prespective. OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP eligibility determinations that are ran run on or after the implementation date of July 1,

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2022, regardless of the benefit month, will no longer display premium information.

DHCS will follow up with an ACWDL once the budget is approved and enacted. DHCS will also <u>has</u> provide<u>d</u> outreach to current beneficiaries informing them of the change and the process for obtaining any appropriate refunds for overpayment of premiums. For the 250 Percent WDP, beneficiaries will be directed to contact the Medi-Cal Member Helpline at **1-800-541-5555**. The contact numbers below are for CCHIP, MCAP, MCAIP and OTLICP.

CCHIP

1-833-912-2447

MCAP

1-800-433-2611

MCAIP or OTLICP

1-800-880-5305

If you have any questions or if we can provide further information:

- For the 250 Percent Working Disabled Program please contact Meuy Saeteune at (916) 345-8064 or by e-mail at Meuy.Saeteune@dhcs.ca.gov.
- For OTLICP, MCAP, MCAIP, and CCHIP, please contact Vanessa Gomez at (916) 345-80467641 or by e-mail at Vanessa.Gomez@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By

Sandra Williams, Chief Medi-Cal Eligibility Division All County Welfare Directors Letter No.: 22-14E Page 4 September 14, 2022

Programs with a zero dollar (\$0) premium effective July 1, 2022	
Program name	Aid code
Optional Targeted Low-Income Children's	T1, T3
Program	
Medi-Cal Access Program	0E
Medi-Cal Access Infant Program	E7
County Children's Health Initiative Program	2C
250% Working Disabled Program	6G