



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

May 6, 2014

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No. 14-25  
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS  
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES  
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL 1 (QI-1) PROGRAM  
AND TRANSITIONAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (TMA) SUNSET DATE  
(QI-1) Reference All County Welfare Directors Letter Nos.: 98-08, 98-15, 98-47,  
98-60, 99-14, 99-43, 99-61, 03-02, 03-20, 03-51, 04-11, 04-38, 05-04, 05-37, 07-32,  
08-08, 08-33, 09-11, 11-36, 12-18, 13-04

(TMA) Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter Numbers 88-51, 90-06, 90-  
32, 90-37, 90-66, 91-57, 92-59, 94-47, 95-85, 96-19, 96-50, 98-24, 98-54, 98-56,  
99-05, 99-44, 99-55, 00-01, 00-32, 00-33, 00-53, 01-02, 01-12, 01-25, 01-36, 01-45,  
02-02, 02-31, 03-30, 03-45, 03-55, 04-28, 08-21, 08-35, 09-13, 11-03, 12-09, 13-04

The purpose of this letter is to notify the counties that on April 1, 2014, the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (H.R. 4302) was signed into law and extends the QI-1 program and the TMA sunset date to March 31, 2015.

### QI-1 Program

The QI-1 program provides payment reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums for individuals with income below 135 percent of the federal poverty level. The QI-1 program was originally scheduled to sunset on March 31, 2014, but Congress has granted a number of temporary extensions.

Because QI-1 has been extended many times, counties are to continue accepting applications and determining eligibility for the QI-1 program until the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) notifies them that the QI-1 program has been discontinued. If the QI-1 program is discontinued, DHCS will:

- Notify counties of the termination date.

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- Discontinue the QI-1 eligibility reporting on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System.
- Discontinue the Medicare Part B buy-in.
- Send a notice of discontinuance to QI-1 individuals.
- Send a listing of discontinued QI-1 individuals to counties so that county systems can be updated.

### Transitional Medi-Cal (TMA)

TMA, known as Transitional Medi-Cal (TMC) in California, provides up to 12 months of Medi-Cal eligibility to beneficiaries discontinued from the Section 1931(b) Medi-Cal program due to employment-related reasons, such as increased hours and/or earnings. TMA has been scheduled to sunset on various occasions in past years, but Congress has granted temporary extensions.

Because the extension of TMC has occurred many times, counties have been advised to continue to determine eligibility for TMC until DHCS notifies counties that TMC has been discontinued.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Tammy Kaylor at (916) 327-0406 or by email at [Tammy.Kaylor@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Tammy.Kaylor@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Tara Naisbitt, Chief  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division