

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
Program Guide**

Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program

Number

05.16

Page

1 of 3

Revision Date:

05/08/2017

Background:

In November 1992 the Legislature passed AB 501, which required the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to implement the federal option of Presumptive Eligibility (PE) for pregnant women as described in section 19520 of the Social Security Act. The PE program allows qualified Medi-Cal providers throughout the state to provide their low-income pregnant patients immediate, temporary Medi-Cal coverage for prenatal care. These patients must then apply formally for Medi-Cal or CalWORKs within 60 days of their PE application. On April 01, 2017 DHCS implemented the California Medicaid Management Information System (CA-MMIS) Online Portal for Qualified Providers (QPs) in the Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program (PE4PW) to assist applicants applying for PE.

Purpose:

To inform staff of the Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program (PE4PW) and the online application process.

Policy:

Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to qualify for PE:

- Income must not exceed 213% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Must be a California resident
- Must attest to being pregnant
- Must not be currently enrolled in Medi-Cal
- Must not have had PE enrollment for the current pregnancy

Presumptive Eligibility Application Process:

- Beneficiaries will apply for benefits in person at Qualified Providers (QP) offices.
- The new MC 263-P application is a one-page PE4PW program application that will allow QP's to collect the applicants self-attested information.
- Authorized QP staff review the completed one-page application and input the applicant's information via the PE4PW Online Portal (CA-MMIS).
- The MC 263-P paper application is not to be mailed or faxed to DHCS for the PE4PW program; rather, the purpose of this paper application is to assist QPs in collecting necessary information for input into the online portal.
- PE4PW Eligibility determination results will be immediately displayed in real time.
- If the applicant is determined eligible for PE4PW, the beneficiary will be assigned aid code 7G and the QP will print out the eligibility determination and the *Immediate Need Eligibility Document*.
- PE4PW beneficiaries must submit a completed IAP application no later than the last day of the month following the month in which PE4PW was granted. If IAP application is submitted during the PE4PW period, their coverage can be extended pending the Medi-Cal determination (approval or denial).

NOTE: Applicants with a negative pregnancy test result or otherwise found to be not pregnant by the QP, will not receive an *Immediate Need Eligibility Document*. MEDS will place the applicant in aid code 7F, and the QP will only be able to claim reimbursement for the pregnancy test and initial visit.

Criteria for Qualified Providers:

In order to become a Qualified Provider (QP) for the PE4PW Program, providers must:

- Be a Medi-Cal Provider in good standing; AND
- Provide prenatal care.

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
Program Guide**

Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program

Number

05.16

Page

2 of 3

For Providers wishing to become a QP, they must request enrollment by downloading the application, QP Application and Agreement for Participation in the PE4PW Program and follow the directions for submission.

Qualified Provider Responsibility:

Qualified Providers are responsible for the following:

- Offering the PR4PW Program to pregnant patients who do not have Medi-Cal or other adequate health coverage. The MC 264-Presumptive Eligibility Patient Fact Sheet should be given to the applicant for information.
- Assist the applicant with completion of the MC 263 P application in order to collect the applicant's self-attested information.
- Inform the applicant at the time of the PE determination that she must file her IAP application within a specified time (before the end of the month following the of the PE application) in order for the PE to continue.
- Assist the applicant in completing her IAP application, if needed.
- Notify the applicant in writing (MC 267- Explanation of Ineligibility for Presumptive Eligibility) if she is determined ineligible for PE and that she may still file an application for Medi-Cal with the County.
- PE4PW QPs are required to provide beneficiaries of the PE4PW Program with an Insurance Affordability Program (IAP) application.
- Printing out the eligibility determination and the Immediate Need Eligibility Document for the beneficiary.
- Maintain records of PE applications and provide these records to DHCS upon request.

NOTE: The County is not responsible for issuing a replacement of the Immediate Need Eligibility Document. The QP who initially determined eligibility for PE is responsible for issuing a replacement document.

Procedure:

Medi-Cal Application Process:

Women enrolled in the PE4PW Program must submit an IAP Application or a Cal-WORKs application no later than the last day of the month following the month in which PE4PW was granted. Applicants can apply online, by phone, mail or in person at any Family Resource Center (FRC).

Retroactive Coverage:

Some PE Beneficiaries may have received health care services not covered under the PE4PW program or prior to their application for PE or Medi-Cal. Eligibility staff shall ask if the applicant needs retroactive coverage for past medical services.

Minor Consent Eligible:

If a minor applies for the PE4PW Program, she must self-attest to the total family income, to the best of her knowledge. If a minor applicant does not want her parents to know that she is applying for Medi-Cal, or is not able to attest to the family income, the provider cannot offer PE4PW services. The applicant will be referred to apply for Medi-Cal under the Minor Consent Program (MPG 04.04).

MEDS Interface:

MEDS will provide a response to the PE online portal (CA-MMIS) with an immediate PE4PW eligibility determination in real time.

MEDS is programmed to automatically terminate all PE4PW benefits for beneficiaries who reach the 60-day limit unless MEDS has a record of a pending IAP application. If MEDS shows a pending HX-18 transaction (Covered California application) or AP-18 Transaction (county application) MEDS will not automatically terminate the PE4PW benefits until the application is adjudicated with either HX-20 or EW-20.

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
Program Guide**

Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program

Number

05.16

Page

3 of 3

The Immediate Need Eligibility Document issued by the provider is considered acceptable proof of eligibility for PE services.

Staff will not process 14-28 MEDS online Request transactions to report, terminate or update PE in MEDS.

Aid Codes

PE4PW Aid Code Definitions

7F

Valid for pregnancy test, initial visit, and services associated with the initial visit. Persons placed in the 7F have pregnancy test results that are negative or have been found to be not pregnant by the QP.

7G

Valid for specific Ambulatory Prenatal Care Services. Persons placed in 7G have self-attested to the pregnancy or have a pregnancy test result that is positive. QP issues a paper Immediate Need Eligibility Document.

Applications in Counties Other Than the County of Residence:

If the PE4PW recipient applies in a county other than the county of residence, the receiving county shall accept the application, make the initial eligibility determination and forward to the appropriate county of residency. Refer to MPG Article 3, Section 1 for information on Courtesy Application Processing.

If the applicant is approved Medi-Cal benefits in San Diego County, follow the procedures outlined in MPG Article 3, Section 2 to process an Intercounty transfer via an eICT.

Program Impact/s:

None

References:

[ACWDL 13-05](#)


[MEDIL I 15-31](#)

[ACWDL 17-09](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by 05/31/2020

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations