

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

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

Number

05.21

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Revision Date:

11/01/2020

Background:

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provides homemaker and personal care assistance to low income individuals who need assistance in their home so they can remain independent. These in-home services are provided by independent providers/IHSS providers/homemakers.

Individuals applying for or receiving IHSS must have a Medi-Cal eligibility determination completed **before** in-home services are authorized.

IHSS Programs

The following programs provide in-home services:

- IHSS Plus Option (Aid Code 2L)
- Personal Care Services Program (PCSP) (Aid Code 2M)
- IHSS Residual (Aid Code 2N)

IHSS aid codes are reported to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) via the Case Management Information and Payrolling System II (CMIPS II) and NOT entered by the Medi-Cal worker into CalWIN.

Purpose:

In addition to a reformat and sunset review, information related to out-of-pocket expenses for personal services has been moved to MPG 12.1.

Policy:

IHSS Programs

IHSS Plus Option (Aid Code 2L)

To qualify for IHSS Plus Option, Medi-Cal eligibility is required. Individuals not receiving Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP) or another Medi-Cal linked cash-based program (for example, Foster Care, CalWORKs, Refugee Cash Assistance [RCA], Adoptions Assistance Program [AAP]) must be determined eligible for federally funded full-scope Medi-Cal and qualify for in-home services through a Needs Assessment completed by an IHSS Social Worker.

Personal Care Services Program (PCSP) (Aid Code 2M)

To qualify for PCSP, individuals not receiving SSI/SSP or Medi-Cal linked to a cash-based program must be determined eligible for federally funded full-scope Medi-Cal and be found in need of personal care services through a Needs Assessment completed by an IHSS Social Worker.

IHSS Residual (Aid Code 2N)

IHSS Residual Program services will be available to individuals who are eligible under current IHSS regulations but are not eligible for federally funded full-scope Medi-Cal.

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Case Processing

Application

The CCFRM604 Single Streamlined application and related forms are used to complete the Medi-Cal determination. The Medi-Cal application packet must contain Disability Determination Services Division (DDSD) forms for cases in which the applicant's disability has not already been determined.

Redetermination

The MC 210RV and related forms are used to complete the annual redetermination.

Share-of-Cost (SOC)

Individuals with a SOC are treated as Medically Needy individuals with a SOC. The SOC may be met with any medical service (including payments to the IHSS provider) and out-of-pocket expenses for personal services.

IHSS Plus Option Income

Payments made under the IHSS Plus Option are exempt as income and property. These exempt payments include:

- Caregiver wages that are paid to a parent of an IHSS Plus Option minor child recipient for services provided to that child
- Caregiver wages that are paid to a spouse of an IHSS Plus Option recipient for services provided to that recipient
- Restaurant meal allowances from IHSS for the IHSS Plus Option recipient
- The advance payments made to IHSS Plus Option recipients to pay their caregivers directly for services provided under the IHSS Plus Option

In-Home Caregiver Wages

In-home caregiver wages received by a spouse/parent for the care of their spouse or minor child in receipt of federal, state, or local government in-home services program are exempt as income and property for Medi-Cal purposes. This exemption includes payments received by a parent or spouse of an IHSS Residual recipient.

In-Home Care Services Payments

Payments made by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to an in-home care recipient for the purpose of purchasing in-home care services, including restaurant meals, are exempt as income and property for Medi-Cal purposes.

Procedure:

Application

Complete a Medi-Cal eligibility determination using Medi-Cal rules, forms, and Notices of Actions (NOAs) for all applicants or recipients of IHSS. The IHSS Needs Assessment can be completed by the IHSS Social Worker at any time during this process.

Out-stationed Workers

Process IHSS related Medi-Cal referrals according to the procedures outlined in MPG 4.2, MPG 4.3, and Medi-Cal Processing Guide 02 CMIPS II Interface Activities.

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Aged & Disabled Federal Poverty Level (A&D FPL) Program

The Medi-Cal determination is separate from the IHSS determination. Determine potential eligibility to the A&D FPL according to the policies outlined in MPG 5.19.

Disability Determination Services Division (DDSD)

For cases that require a disability determination, follow the DDSD requirements outlined in MPG 5.4.

CalWORKs Discontinuance

When a CalWORKs recipient, who is also receiving IHSS, is discontinued and has no other Medi-Cal eligibility, contact the IHSS Social Worker to request a copy of the DDSD determination. If the DDSD determination shows that the recipient is disabled and the reexamination date has not passed, use that determination for Medi-Cal eligibility.

Redetermination

Each Family Resource Center (FRC) is responsible for completing the annual redetermination of these cases according to the procedures outlined in MPG 4.15 and Medi-Cal Processing Guide 02 CMIPS II Interface Activities.

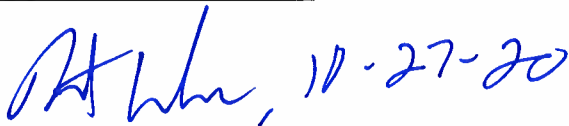
References:

ACL 05-05
ACL 05-05E
ACWDL 05-21
ACWDL 05-29
ACWDL 07-02
ACWDL 15-02
County Policy

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 11/30/2023

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations