

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

Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – CDCR Pre-Release

Number
06.02.01

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Revision Date:

3/6/2017

Background:

In January 2008, DHCS entered into an agreement with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to facilitate the completion, and submission, of Medi-Cal applications for inmates and wards of CDCR, prior to their release. The intent of this agreement is to allow eligible inmates timely access to Medi-Cal benefits upon their release.

Purpose:

To provide description of and regulations governing the CDCR Pre-Release application program.

Policy:

A. Eligibility

Pre-release applications are submitted to the county by state Transitional Case Management Program (TCMP) CDCR staff, around 90 days prior to release, and are processed using existing Medi-Cal regulations, however submission of an application earlier than 90 days prior to release is not grounds for denial. The inmate is evaluated for the month of release, and the beginning date of aid is the first of the month of release.

B. Verifications

The chart below summarizes how common eligibility verification requirements can be met as part of the pre-release application process:

Verification	Requirement
Household Size	The household size is based on the household of the inmate upon release.
Income	Reported income must be verified using current Medi-Cal rules (reasonable compatibility with the hub information), however if the income is not reasonably compatible and the inmate cannot resolve discrepancy due to incarceration, grant eligibility based on the client's statement and resolve the discrepancy upon their release using the existing request for information timelines.
Identity	Verification that the inmate is incarcerated from the cover sheet or statement from the facility can be used to verify identity if there is no other evidence available (e.g. SSA verification) or if there is no contradicting evidence to what is stated on the application.
DRA Citizenship and Identity	Verification is required, but staff is reminded that eligibility can be granted pending verification of citizenship and identity.
Asset Verification (non-MAGI)	Verification may be obtained after release if the reported property does not make the applicant ineligible. Follow existing request for information timelines to obtain verification after release.
Residence	Inmate status may be used to verify California residence if all of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other evidence is available. • CDCR confirms that the inmate is incarcerated in a CA correctional facility (statement on the cover letter). • The inmate declares an intent to reside in CA. • There is no evidence to suggest the inmate will not be a CA resident in the month of release.
SSN	Must be verified in accordance to regular Medi-Cal rules.

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Household Tax
Filer Status

Tax Filer Status must be determined based on existing Medi-Cal rules.

If the inmate...	Then ...
Is a member of a household, and returning to that household	Add the inmate back to the active family case effective the month of release.
Is single, or tax filing status is uncertain	Treat the individual as a single individual.

C. Confidentiality

- During incarceration, share information only with the AR listed on the single streamlined application (usually the TCMP worker listed on the cover letter).
- After release, share information only with the individual, and or entity listed on the [CDCR form 7385-A](#) (if provided).

Procedure:

Process CDCR Pre-Release applications using procedures in Processing Guide 13 – Inmate Eligibility Programs

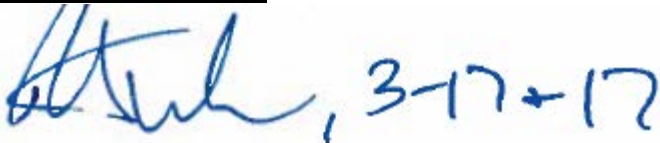
References:

ACWDLs [09-16](#), [14-26](#)
MEDIL [16-19](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 3/31/2020

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

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Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – State MCIEP

Number

06.02.02

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Revision Date:

3/6/2017

Background:

The California Prison Health Care Services (CPHCS) is responsible for the medical care of California state prison inmates. Assembly Bill 1628 authorized the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), the Department of HealthCare Services (DHCS) and CPHCS to coordinate in obtaining the maximum number of Federal dollars for inpatient hospital services received by state prison inmates. In order to meet this goal, they have developed the State Medi-Cal Inmate Eligibility Program (MCIEP).

When an inmate receives inpatient medical care:

CPHCS staff forwards applications, verifications, and medical records for DDSD applications to DHCS. DHCS performs eligibility determinations and forwards inmate eligibility information to CPHCS.

All eligibility determinations for MCIEP are completed by DHCS.

Purpose:

Provide staff with information about State MCIEP and the county's role.

Policy:

A. Eligibility Requirements

Inmates are eligible to MCIEP if they meet the following criteria:

- Are an inmate of a California State Prison
- Receive inpatient hospital services off the grounds of the correctional facility
- Are hospitalized for 24 hours or more
- Receive allowable inpatient hospital services
- Meet all Medi-Cal eligibility requirements such as linkage, deprivation, alien/citizenship status, income and property

B. Aid Codes

When a person is found eligible to MCIEP, DHCS will place the beneficiary in one of the following aid codes:

- F1 - Title XIX, Medi-Cal Zero SOC State Inmates
- G1- Title XIX, Medi-Cal SOC State Inmates
- F2 - Title XIX/Title XXI Medi-Cal Zero SOC Undocumented State Inmates
- G2 – Title XIX/Title XXI Medi-Cal SOC Undocumented State Inmates

C. County Participation

As part of the MCIEP, DHCS refers the following individuals to the county via the MCIEP transmittal form when:

- Case clearance of an inmate reveals an open Medi-Cal case for the individual.
- Infants are born to MCIEP eligible inmates.
- MCIEP beneficiaries are released from prison while on the MCIEP program.

The below chart lists required actions related to state MCIEP:

Situation	Action
A parolee is released from Prison while eligible to MCIEP	Complete an ex parte review and redetermination.
Deemed Eligible Infants	When an inmate is MCIEP eligible at the time of their infant's

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	birth, the child is automatically deemed eligible for Medi-Cal without a separate application.
There are ineligible Case Members	When DHCS notifies the county of an MCIEP applicant that is active on a county Medi-Cal case, suspend the inmate, re-evaluate the rest of the case members, and send timely notice for any changes.
There is interaction with the Pre-Release Application Process	If a MCIEP beneficiary requests a pre-release application from the county through the pre-release application process, that new application must be denied and the SB87 determination completed as stated above in E.
A Parolee Applies for Medi-Cal	MCIEP beneficiaries released from custody within 12 months of their MCIEP application are not required to complete a new Medi-Cal application. When a case clearance at the county reveals that an applicant has eligibility under MCIEP, request the case file from DHCS and complete the SB87 determination. Request the case file via secure email to MCIEP@dhcs.ca.gov .

Procedure:

Procedures for processing the MCIEP referrals received from DHCS can be found in Processing Guide 13 – Inmate Eligibility Programs. Section 3

References:

ACWDLs [11-27](#), [14-26](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 3/31/2020

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

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

Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – County Pre-Release Applications

Number
06.02.03

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Revision Date:

3/6/2017

Background:

AB 720 authorizes counties to assist county jail inmates with their applications for a health insurance affordability program, and clarified that the fact that an applicant is an inmate shall not preclude a county human services agency from processing an application submitted to it by, or on behalf of, that inmate.

Purpose:

To provide regulations related to county pre-release applications.

Policy:

Pre-release applications are submitted around 90 days prior to the applicant's release and are processed using existing Medi-Cal regulations and the inmate is evaluated for the month of release.

Follow the state pre-release verification guidance in 06.02.02.C when processing county inmate pre-release applications.

Procedure:

When processing county pre-release applications, follow procedures in Processing Guide 13 – Inmate Eligibility Programs, Section 2.

References:

ACWDL [14-26](#)

Sunset Date:

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Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

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Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – County MCIEP

Number
06.02.04

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Revision Date:

12/18/2017

Background:

The County Medi-Cal Inmate Eligibility Program (MCIEP) provides limited Medi-Cal coverage to otherwise eligible county inmates, who receive acute inpatient hospital services provided off the grounds of the county correctional facility. AB 396 allows juvenile facilities to receive federal funds to pay for inpatient hospital services, and inpatient psychiatric services, received off the grounds of the juvenile facility. The MCIEP aid codes were moved to the secondary segment in MEDS 7/2016. MEDIL 17-10 provided procedures for reporting SSI Medi-Cal eligible MCIEP applicants to SSA. This section was revised to add the SSA MCIEP applicant information.

Purpose:

To provide staff with regulations related to county MCIEP.

Policy:

A. Eligibility

MCIEP is limited scope Medi-Cal coverage that covers inmates for inpatient care received off the grounds of the facility.

In order to be eligible for County MCIEP, an inmate must be otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal (following the current Medi-Cal regulations, and order of evaluation).

The inmate need not be receiving inpatient care off the grounds of the facility to be found eligible to MCIEP and applications may be processed prior to the date the inmate begins receiving inpatient care.

Inmates are not eligible to Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTC).

B. Verifications

Existing Medi-Cal verification rules apply to pre-release applications. The chart below lists clarifications received from DHCS and modifications of the regulations allowed for MCIEP applicants:

Subject	Regulation
Household Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The household size is based on the household of the inmate, including their family at home. The parent of an incarcerated juvenile may claim the child as a tax dependent, if the child lived with their parents for more than half the year.
Income	Count all known income for the inmate, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income from a spouse at home in the applicant's tax household. Income in jail accounts including retirement pensions, Veteran's Administration funds, donations or wages received while incarcerated (income received in the month is income, the unspent amount becomes property the following month). Income shown in IEVS. Income reported on the application.
In-Kind Income	For Non-MAGI evaluations, housing, utilities, food and clothing provided by the facility are considered in-kind income.
Identity	Verification that the inmate is incarcerated from the cover sheet can be used to verify identity if there is no other evidence available (e.g. SSA verification) and there is no contradicting evidence to what is stated on the application.
DRA	Verification is required, but staff are reminded that eligibility can be granted pending

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Citizenship and Identity	verification of citizenship and identity.
Asset Verification (non-MAGI)	Verification may be obtained after release if the reported property does not make the applicant ineligible. Follow existing request for information timelines to obtain verification after release.
Residence	Inmate Status may be used to verify California residence if no other verification is available.

C. Annual Redetermination

The Period of Eligibility for MCIEP is 12 months. Inmates will remain active on MCIEP as long as they are incarcerated and otherwise eligible to Medi-Cal.

Annual Redetermination requirements apply to inmates covered under MCIEP. Changes in circumstances, such as aging out of the MAGI new adult group, must be processed according to existing redetermination policy.

If the individual becomes Medi-Cal ineligible, MCIEP must be discontinued with timely notice.

D. Notice of Action

Notice of Action for MCIEP must be sent to the authorized representative, not the inmate.

E. Interaction with Suspension of Benefits

When an inmate is suspended from Medi-Cal due to incarceration and subsequently receives inpatient care services, they may be placed on the MCIEP aid code based on their previous Medi-Cal aid code.

F. Inmates Released while MCIEP Active

A new application is not required. Verify continuing eligibility through an ex parte review and Medi-Cal eligibility redetermination.

G. County of Responsibility

The county of responsibility for County MCIEP is the county where the individual is incarcerated.

If San Diego receives an MCIEP application for an individual incarcerated in another county, workers will complete the courtesy application process by forwarding the application, and all information collected, to the county of responsibility within 15 days of the application date.

If the incarcerated individual has a suspended Medi-Cal case in another county, coordinate with that county to lift the suspense, and then process the MCIEP application. Only the county that implemented the suspense can lift it.

H. Social Security Income

Since the MCIEP aid code moved to the secondary segment, individuals active on SSI can be granted MCIEP in the same month as they are active on SSI Medi-Cal. Workers must report the incarceration to SSI through the DHCS liaison (see processing guide 13).

Procedure:

When processing MCIEP applications, follow the application procedures in processing guide 13 – Inmate Eligibility Programs, Section 4.

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References:

ACWDLs [13-18](#), [14-26](#),
MEDIL [16-23](#), [17-20](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12/31/2020

Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

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**Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – Suspending Benefits
for Inmates**

Number
06.02.05

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Revision Date:

3/6/2017

Background:

Senate Bill 1147 requires that rather than terminating Medi-Cal eligibility, it must be suspended for up to one year for inmates of public institutions under the age 21, who were Medi-Cal eligible at the time of incarceration. Senate Bill 720 expanded suspension policy to adult inmates effective 1/1/14. Suspension does not apply to adult inmates incarcerated prior to 1/1/14.

Purpose:

To provide staff with regulations related to suspending inmate benefits.

Policy:

A. Eligibility

Eligibility must be restored without a new application, effective the day an eligible inmate is no longer an inmate of a public institution.

In order to qualify for suspension, inmates must:

- Be Medi-Cal Beneficiaries at the time of incarceration.
- Comply with all annual redetermination requirements during incarceration.
- Remain otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal during their incarceration.
- Not be considered an inmate of a public institution within one year of their incarceration date.
- Be Medi-Cal eligible on the day they are released

B. Time limit

Suspension is limited to one year from the incarceration date or until the release date, whichever occurs first. Suspension must be ended and Medi-Cal terminated.

C. Suspension

When workers receive notice that a Medi-Cal beneficiary has been incarcerated they must suspend benefits for up to one year from the date of incarceration. The benefits must be suspended with timely notice.

D. Restoration

Eligibility must be restored on suspended inmates without a new application, effective the date the County receives the report that the inmate has been released, or the date he or she is no longer considered an inmate.

E. Redetermination

Suspended inmates must meet redetermination requirements. When the redetermination falls within the first year of the inmate's incarceration, workers must confirm that the inmate is still an inmate of a public institution and is otherwise eligible to Medi-Cal.

If redetermination requirements are not met, the suspension and Medi-Cal eligibility must be discontinued with timely notice.

Procedures:

Procedures for processing inmate suspensions are located in Processing Guide 13.

References:

ACWDLs [13-18](#), [14-26](#),

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for Inmates

Number
06.02.05

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Approval for Release:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, followed by the date "3-17-17".

Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

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Inmate Application and Eligibility Programs – Incarceration Verification Program (IVP)	Number	Page
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Revision Date:

8/1/2018

Background:

Federal law states that Federal Financial Participation (FFP) is unavailable for expenditures for services provided to inmates of public institutions, except for covered inpatient services received off the grounds of the correctional facility. Similarly, state law generally disallows eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal services to inmates of public institutions. However, recent statutes allow the state to provide Medi-Cal coverage of inpatient services provided to eligible inmates if those services are received off the grounds of the correctional facility.

DHCS implemented the IVP using the Nationwide Prisoner Match (NPM) system to identify individuals who are ineligible for full-scope Medi-Cal due to incarceration. ACWDL 14-26 introduced the regulation to suspend inmates of a public institution who have active Medi-Cal. This section was revised to include suspension policies.

Purpose:

To provide staff with regulations related to the IVP.

Policy:

A. NPM Matching Process

The NPM matches Medi-Cal beneficiary information with the SSA's Prisoner Update Program System database which contains data from jails, prisons and incarceration facilities. The NPM is the system for identifying individuals who are ineligible due to incarceration.

Step	Action						
1	DHCS completes a MEDS data match with the NPM to identify ineligible incarcerated Medi-Cal beneficiaries.						
2	DHCS verifies the incarceration status of the matches by contacting the correctional facilities.						
3	DHCS sends Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are incarcerated for more than a year verification letters to confirm incarceration status. The letters have reply cards.						
4	DHCS suspends Medi-Cal for ineligible incarcerated Medi-Cal beneficiaries who confirm incarceration status or who did not respond within 10 days and sends a notice of action.						
5	DHCS sends suspension lists to the counties and eligibility operations distributes to county workers.						
6	The worker reviews the individual's suspension to ensure they still meet the suspense criteria (for example, the inmate is incarcerated for less than a year). <table border="1" data-bbox="272 1633 1463 1837"> <thead> <tr> <th>If...</th> <th>Then...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>The inmate still meets the suspension criteria.</td> <td>Take the suspension actions required in CalWIN to suspend the individual and narrate to follow up at the end of the one year suspension period.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The inmate no longer meets the suspension criteria.</td> <td>Discontinue the inmate's Medi-Cal eligibility in CalWIN and MEDS.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If...	Then...	The inmate still meets the suspension criteria.	Take the suspension actions required in CalWIN to suspend the individual and narrate to follow up at the end of the one year suspension period.	The inmate no longer meets the suspension criteria.	Discontinue the inmate's Medi-Cal eligibility in CalWIN and MEDS.
If...	Then...						
The inmate still meets the suspension criteria.	Take the suspension actions required in CalWIN to suspend the individual and narrate to follow up at the end of the one year suspension period.						
The inmate no longer meets the suspension criteria.	Discontinue the inmate's Medi-Cal eligibility in CalWIN and MEDS.						

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Verification Program (IVP)**

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B. Incarcerated Juveniles

The IVP focuses on adult inmates and does not include juveniles (individuals under age 21) who are identified by the NPM in the IVP.

C. Inmate Eligibility Coordination

DHCS IVP staff will coordinate with state Medi-Cal Inmate Eligibility Program ([MCIEP](#)) staff to ensure that eligible inmates receiving MCIEP benefits are not discontinued if they are identified by the data match. The DHCS Inmate Eligibility Unit will review the monthly IVP list to ensure that the IVP will not suspend eligible inmates.

D. County Coordination

Although the incarceration verification letter will instruct Medi-Cal beneficiaries to return the reply card directly to DHCS, some Medi-Cal beneficiaries may contact the County. The worker may accept the signed reply card from the Medi-Cal beneficiary, but then must take the actions in the table below.

Option	Action
1	Accept the signed reply card from the beneficiary. Notify DHCS via encrypted email at ivp@dhcs.ca.gov within two business days of receiving the beneficiary response.
2	Redirect the beneficiary reply card to DHCS.

If the worker discovers that a discontinued beneficiary is participating in a pre-release application process, the worker shall follow the procedures outlined in 06.02.01.

E. Suspense Reports

DHCS will inform counties of the Medi-Cal suspensions performed at the state level. Information will be provided to the counties in spreadsheet format discontinuance reports, which will include the effective date of the discontinuance action performed at the state level. The discontinuance reports, titled "Suspensions due to incarceration", will be loaded to The Medi-Cal Reports Section of the MR Sharepoint. Medi-Cal Program will notify FRCs when a report has been loaded. Workers must then update the eligibility status of the suspended beneficiaries in CalWIN following the suspense procedures. No ex parte review is required.

F. Treatment of Other Household Members

The eligibility of other household members must be re-evaluated and changes made with timely notice when the inmate is removed from the Medi-Cal household via suspense or termination.

G. Treatment of Joint Cases

Some beneficiaries identified by IVP may have a joint case, meaning they are receiving both CalWORKs and Medi-Cal benefits. IVP will only handle the suspense of Medi-Cal benefits. CalWORKs workers shall follow procedures for CalWORKs cases.

H. State Hearings

If beneficiaries disagree with IVP suspense actions, the beneficiaries may request a State Administrative Hearing. In the event that a County needs to collect facts from DHCS to prepare for hearings related to IVP suspense actions, Appeals staff should contact DHCS at ivp@dhcs.ca.gov.

I. Reinstatement

Upon release from the correctional facility, follow the suspension lift policies in MPG 06.02.05.D and procedures in Processing Guide 13, section 5.

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J. Termination

The IVP list contains an admission date. If the admission date exceeds one year from the date the worker is processing the list, terminate the suspended Medi-Cal following policies in MPG 06.02.05.B and procedures in Processing Guide 13, section 5.

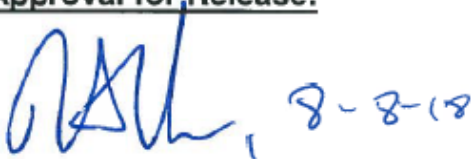
References:

[ACWDL 12-39](#)

Sunset Date:

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Approval for Release:



Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

**County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
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County Inmate Compassionate Release (CCRP)/ Medical Probation Program(CMPP)	Number	Page
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Release Date:

4/1/2019

Background:

Senate Bill (SB)1462 and AB 82 authorized the county sheriff to release inmates compassionately from a correctional facility based on a medical condition that caused the inmate's life expectancy to be less than six months and to request the court to grant medical probation for inmates with an incapacitating medical condition. This section was updated to include information about the state version of the Medical Parole Program.

Purpose:

To provide staff with regulations related to the compassionate release/ medical probation program

Policy:

A. Eligibility

Once the sheriff notifies the county that the inmate meets CCRP/CMPP criteria (life expectancy less than six months, court granted medical probation, or resentencing for medically incapacitated inmates requiring 24 hour care), evaluate for Medi-Cal using existing rules and order of evaluation, and place the inmate in the CCRP/CMPP aid code that matches their Medi-Cal eligibility.

B. Aid Codes

Aid Code	Description	MAGI/Non-MAGI Newly Eligible?
K6	Full Scope, zero SOC, citizen/satisfactory immigration status aged 19-64 with income up to 138% of FPL, including blind/disabled with income between 128% and 138 % of FPL. Newly Eligible	MAGI Newly Eligible
K7	Restricted Scope, Zero SOC, undocumented/ unsatisfactory immigration status, aged 19-64 with income up to 138% of FPL including disabled/blind with income 128% to 138% of FPL. Newly Eligible	MAGI Newly Eligible
K8	Full Scope, zero SOC, citizen/satisfactory immigration status aged 19-64, including disabled/blind with income below 128% of FPL.	MAGI Not Newly Eligible
K9	Restricted Scope, zero SOC, undocumented/ unsatisfactory immigration status individuals aged 19-64, including disabled/blind, with income below 128% of FPL.	MAGI Not Newly Eligible
J1	Full Scope, zero SOC, citizen/ satisfactory immigration status, Non-MAGI	Non-MAGI
J2	Full Scope with SOC , citizen/satisfactory immigration status, Non-MAGI	Non-MAGI
J3	Restricted Scope, zero SOC for undocumented/ unsatisfactory immigration status Non-MAGI	Non-MAGI
J4	Restricted Scope with SOC for undocumented/ unsatisfactory immigration status, Non-MAGI	Non-MAGI
J5	Full Scope, zero SOC/SOC, citizen/ satisfactory immigration status , aged 65 and over, and in LTC.	Non-MAGI
J6	Restricted Scope, zero SOC/SOC, undocumented/ unsatisfactory immigration status, aged 65 and over, and in LTC.	Non-MAGI
J7	Full Scope, zero SOC/SOC, citizen/ satisfactory immigration status, disabled, residing in an LTC facility.	Non-MAGI
J8	Restricted Scope, zero SOC/SOC undocumented/unsatisfactory immigration status, disabled, residing in an LTC facility.	Non-MAGI

The below chart lists the CCRP/CMPP aid codes:

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County Inmate Compassionate Release (CCRP)/ Medical Probation Program(CMPP)

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C. Effective Dates

The beginning date of aid is the first of the month of application unless the beneficiary is transitioning from MCIEP to CCRP/CMPP, then the BDOA would be date of transfer to the new care facility. The termination date for MCIEP would be the day before the transfer.

Terminate CCRP/CMPP with timely notice at the end of the month.

D. MEDS Alerts

Alert 9574 will generate when beneficiaries reach age 64 and 10 months. Evaluate for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal upon receipt of this alert.

E. State Inmate Medical Parole Program

The state has a version of the Medical Parole program for state inmates. The state completes eligibility for these programs and the county does not have the ability to grant the following aid codes (informational only):

Aid Code	Description	MAGI/Non-MAGI Newly Eligible?
K2	Full-scope, zero SOC for State Medical Parolees	Yes
K3	Restricted Medi-Cal with no SOC for undocumented State Medical Parolees	Yes
K4	Full-scope, zero SOC for State Medical Parolees	No
K5	Restricted Medi-Cal with no SOC for undocumented State Medical Parolees	No

References:

[ACWDLs 17-28, 18-20](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 4/30/2022

Approval for Release

 3-28-19

Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations