



# MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM UPDATE August 2006



## MSR Questions & Answers

The following are some of the most frequently asked questions regarding processing the Medi-Cal Midyear Status Report (MSR):

**Q1. If a non-exempt beneficiary is terminated for failure to comply with the MSR requirement and subsequently requests to be added back onto an existing case, which form is used?**

A1. When adding an individual back onto an existing case, the non-exempt individual must complete either the MC 321 HFP-AP or the MC 210.

**Q2. Can the terminated non-exempt person be added back onto the case using the MC 210 LA Pilot?**

A2. No. If the terminated non-exempt person is listed on the MC 210 LA Pilot, the EW must contact the beneficiary and request the completion of the MC 321 HFP-AP or the MC 210.

**Q3. Can the terminated non-exempt person request retroactive benefits when requesting to be added back onto an existing case?**

A3. Yes. Since this is considered a reapplication, the beneficiary may apply for retroactive benefits for the three months prior to reapplication. The beneficiary must complete the MC 210 A in addition to the MC 210 HFP-AP or the MC 210. He/she must meet all eligibility requirements for retroactive benefits.

**Q4. Is a completed MSR required to add the non-exempt person back onto an existing case?**

A4. No. The non-exempt person is not required to provide a completed MSR before being added back onto an existing case. Once he/she is added back onto the case, the non-exempt person will be required to comply with the MSR requirement in the next MSR cycle.

## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) allows an abused non-citizen spouse or child of a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident to apply directly (self-petition) to United States Citizenship Immigration Services (USCIS), formerly known as INS, on their own behalf for a lawful immigration status.



Participants with VAWA certification are eligible to Cal-Works, General Relief, and Medi-Cal. However, they must meet all eligibility requirements for the programs, including California residency. Those who petition to adjust their immigration status will be issued Form I-797. Some notices may state that they are valid for up to 150 days. However, staff should not deny/discontinue the case due to the 150 day expiration date until an inquiry to the USCIS Vermont Services Center to verify the petition for lawful immigration status is completed. While the immigration case is pending, the participant is eligible to full-scope benefits.

There are three methods for verifying the petition for lawful immigration status:

1. Sending the PA 42, VAWA Fax Inquiry to the Vermont USCIS Services Center at (802) 527-3159.
2. Checking USCIS Case Status by using the internet online services at <http://www.uscis.gov>. To access a participant's petition status, the district VAWA liaison must enter the application receipt number, found on the forms provided to participants after they have submitted an application to the USCIS center. An update will be immediately provided.
3. Calling the USCIS National Customer Services Center automated service at (800) 375-5283.

**The findings must be documented in the LEADER case comments screen.**

Ref. Manual Letter 558, dated 02/01/02



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## Case Address On LEADER Not On MEDS

When a participant's address is entered into LEADER, it is important not to use any symbols or punctuation marks including, but not limited to, the following:

- ▶ Quotation marks (" ")
- ▶ Semi-colons (;)
- ▶ Periods (.)
- ▶ Number signs (#)

When symbols or punctuation marks are used in LEADER, this information is sent to MEDS. MEDS cannot interpret symbols and therefore, rejects the entire address. MEDS then places an address flag 2 on the MEDS record.

Following the instructions below to correct the address in LEADER and MEDS will significantly reduce the number of MEDS alerts.

The address must be corrected on LEADER first.

To correct the address on LEADER:

- ▶ Go to Data Collection Sub-System.
- ▶ Select Case Summary Screen.
- ▶ Select the Address Command Button on the lower right hand corner to bring up the Case Address Screen.
- ▶ Do not change the "valid from" date.
- ▶ Select the Address command button.
- ▶ Correct the address by deleting all symbols and punctuation marks.
- ▶ Select OK.

To remove the address flag on MEDS:  
**Complete a PA 5309.**

- ▶ Enter correct address by deleting all symbols and punctuation marks.
- ▶ Enter the effective date which is first of the current month.

Ref. LEADER Handbook Address Change/Correction



## Bridging Alert



When processing a Medi-Cal application, Intake Workers must access and complete the LEADER **Medi-Cal Healthy Family Referral tab**. To do so, open the CHDP/Social Services/Medi-Cal Healthy Families Referral screen in the Data Collection Subsystem. Completing this tab is essential to meeting future Bridging Program Performance Standards.

Additionally, staff is encouraged to inform applicants of the benefits of consenting to a Medi-Cal to Healthy Families Referral.

Ref. Administrative Memorandum MPD 05-04 dated 02/08/05

## REMINDER



### Notices of Action (NOA) in Threshold Languages

This is a reminder to staff to send NOAs to participants in the language designated on the Primary Language Designation Form (PA 481). This is particularly important for the non-English/non-Spanish threshold languages since LEADER does not generate these NOAs. When a participant has designated a language other than English or Spanish, the Eligibility Worker **must** manually send the correct NOA in the appropriate threshold language.

This process will be greatly facilitated when all districts go onto the new LEADER Threshold Language NOA Project.

Ref. Administrative Directive 4144, dated 3/4/02 and DPSS Operations Handbook #299, dated 6/1/02

## Retroactive Medi-Cal

Anyone requesting retroactive Medi-Cal must complete the MC 210A (Supplement to Statement of Facts for Retroactive Coverage/Restoration). The MC 210A must be sent to participants whenever retroactive Medi-Cal is requested. LEADER is not currently programmed to send the MC 210A when a participant requests retroactive benefits. Therefore, any time a participant requests retroactive coverage, the EW must manually send the MC 210A to the participant.

The MC 210A must be on file in the case when retroactive Medi-Cal is processed in order to avoid an error during a State or other quality control audit. Following the above instructions will improve our overall performance and decrease our error rate.

Ref. Medi-Cal Eligibility Manual Section 50148

## 1931(b) In-Kind Income



This is to remind staff of the differences in In-Kind income values for Medi-Cal. The In-Kind income values for the Medically Needy (MN) program are different from the 1931(b) In-Kind income values. **When determining In-Kind income values for 1931(b), use the table listed below.**

### 1931 (b) In-Kind Income Chart

# in MFBU	Housing	Utilities	Food	Clothing
1	161	34	90	27
2	217	39	191	52
3	237	42	244	79
4	248	44	301	105
5	248	44	363	133

Ref. MCST CHT, 02/23/2006