

Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter # 602

January 8, 2007

Subject **Processing Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Cases When Eligibility Has Been Erroneously Discontinued**

Effective Date Upon receipt

Reference ACWDL No. 05-24

Purpose The purpose of this letter is to provide staff with instructions for reinstating eligibility for Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program (QMB) cases that have been discontinued in error.

Background The QMB program provides for payment of Medicare Part A and B premiums, coinsurance, and deductibles. When a QMB case is erroneously discontinued due to no fault of the beneficiary, the error is an administrative error and must be corrected.

Eligibility must be reinstated for past months when a beneficiary was eligible and should have been covered.

Examples Reconciliation process compares the State and County computer records and a QMB case is on MEDS but is not reflected on the County system.

A QMB eligible person moves from one county to another and QMB is discontinued because the QMB case is either not transferred by the sending county or picked up by the receiving county.

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Required Action In order for Medi-Cal to retroactively pay for all premiums in arrears, the worker must reinstate QMB eligibility in MEDS.

- Aid Code 80
- The effective date is the date that QMB was erroneously discontinued

Follow-up Action Once the continuous QMB eligibility reporting has been entered into MEDS, the State's Medicare Buy-In system will process a Medicare Part A Buy-In transaction. This transaction will generate Medicare Part A and B coverage and pay the SSA for all past premiums.

If the Medicare Part A Buy-In transaction does not process correctly, workers will submit a Medicare Buy-In Problem Report (DHS 6166) to the Department of Health Services, Medicare Buy-In Unit.

CalWIN Impact CalWIN and MEDS must reflect the same correct information. If CalWIN is not properly reflecting QMB program eligibility, it must be corrected either at **Application Registration** or the **Collect Individual Prior/Current Aid Detail** window.

Forms Impact No impact.

Quality Assurance Impact Effective with the March 2007 sample month, Quality Assurance will cite with the appropriate error any case that does not follow the requirements of this letter.

Summary of Change The table below shows the changes that were made to the MPG material.

Article	Change
Article 5, Section 13	Provided instructions for reinstating QMB eligibility what has been discontinued in error.

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The table below shows how to file the MPG material.

**Filing
Instructions**

Action	Pages
Remove	Article 5-13-7 through Article 5-13-13
Replace with	Article 5-13-7 through Article 5-13-14

**Important
Notice**

The MPG is available in its entirety on the County Intranet by accessing <http://hhsa.intranet/manuals/mpg/index.html>. The MPG revisions listed in this letter will be entered into the Intranet MPG at the next update.

**Manager
Approval**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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Strategic Planning and Operational Support

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