

Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter (MPG) # 756

June 12, 2012

Subject REFERRAL OF DISABILITY PACKETS TO THE DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICE DIVISION-STATE PROGRAM (DDSD-SP)

Effective Upon Receipt

Reference All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) 12-17

Purpose The purpose of this letter is to inform staff that disability packets will no longer have to be held until the 80th day after the Medi-Cal application date for applicants with a Social Security Administration (SSA) application or an adjudication pending to be submitted to DDSD-SP.

Background Currently all Medi-Cal applicants requiring a disability evaluation must have their SSA status verified to determine if the applicant has had a disability determination adjudicated or has a pending application with SSA. When an applicant has an application or an adjudication pending with SSA, the worker will hold the disability packet until the 80th day after the Medi-Cal application date. On the 80th day the worker will forward the disability packet to DDSD-SP.

Highlighted Changes Workers are no longer required to hold the disability packet until the 80th day for applicants with an SSA application or an adjudication pending.

Required Action All completed disability packets must be submitted to DDSD-SP within 10 calendar days from the date the completed disability packet is received.

NOTE: Workers will not hold the disability packet pending evaluation or verification of other non-disability factors.

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Automation Impact No Impact.

Forms Impact No Impact.

Access Impact No Impact.

Imaging Impact No Impact.

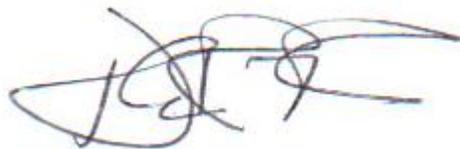
PA (CalFresh or CalWORKs) Program Impact No Impact.

QC/QA Impact Effective with the August 2012 review month. Quality Assurance will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

Summary of Changes The table below shows the changes made in the MPG cites.

Section	Summary of Change
Article 5, Section 4	• Disability evaluation by SSA

Approval for Release



CG

5.4.1 DDSD Referrals

D. Disability Evaluation by SSA

All Medi-Cal applicants requiring a disability evaluation must have their SSA status verified to determine if the applicant has had a disability determination adjudicated or has a pending application with SSA.

SSA evaluates disability claims in the order that will be most beneficial to the applicant.

1. Title II SSA disability
2. SSA early retirement (applicant over 62 years of age)
3. Title XVI SSI

The worker must follow the steps outlined below when the completed disability packet is received:

Step	Action								
1	Scan disability packet into DoRes								
2	Verify the applicant's SSA status in the following order by viewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDS screen INQX - shows H80, individual has a pending SSA disability claim • MEDS screen INQP- denial or appeal information • SDX1 for SSI pending application or disability onset date • SSA disability award/denial letter • SSA disability checks • Contacting the local SSA field office by telephone 								
3	Using the information obtained above apply the following: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">When the applicant has a...</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Then the worker will...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>favorable disability determination completed by SSA</td> <td>follow procedures outlined in MPG 5.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>disability claim denied by SSA or the worker is unable to verify the applicants SSA status</td> <td>forward the completed disability packet to DDSD following guidelines in MPG 5.4 Appendix A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>pending disability application</td> <td>go to Step 4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	When the applicant has a...	Then the worker will...	favorable disability determination completed by SSA	follow procedures outlined in MPG 5.3	disability claim denied by SSA or the worker is unable to verify the applicants SSA status	forward the completed disability packet to DDSD following guidelines in MPG 5.4 Appendix A	pending disability application	go to Step 4
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4	Document in case comments that the individual has fulfilled their SSA disability filing requirement								

ACWDL
12-17

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5.4.1 DDSD Referrals, Continued

**D.
Disability
Evaluation by
SSA**
(continued)

Step	Action
5	<p>Submit disability packet to DDSD within 10 calendar days from the date the statement of facts is received, or from the date the applicant claims to be disabled, whichever is later. The only exception is when circumstances beyond the worker's control cause a delay in submitting the referral. The reason for the delay must be documented in Case Comments.</p> <p>NOTE: Do not hold the disability packet pending evaluation or verification of other non-disability factors.</p>

Note: If SSA denied the disability claim after reopening the previous decision, the SSA decision would supersede DDSD's determination. Worker will deny the Medi-Cal application if no other linkage is established.

MPG LTR 756 (06/12)