

# Medi-Cal Program Guide (MPG) Letter #769

December 05, 2012

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**Subject**            **ARTICLE A – CLARIFICATION REGARDING LOW INCOME HEALTH PROGRAM (LIHP) ENROLLEES CONSIDERED AS “EXISTING”**

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**Effective Date**    Upon receipt.

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**Reference**            County Policy

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**Purpose**                To provide staff with instructions for LIHP enrollees who are considered “existing” and the meaning of that designation.

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**Background**        Coverage Initiative (CI) was the 1115 Medicaid Waiver program which was replaced by LIHP. The income limit for CI was 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

LIHP consists of two (2) components:

- Medicaid Coverage Expansion (MCE), which covers eligible individuals 0-133% FPL; and
- Health Care Coverage Initiative (HCCI), which covers eligible individuals over 133% FPL up to and including 200% FPL.

Effective 2/14/11, San Diego’s LIHP offered new enrollment only to the MCE portion of LIHP. New enrollment into LIHP’s HCCI is not permitted; however, individuals who were enrolled in CI effective 2/14/11, and had income between 134% and 200% of the FPL during their previous enrollment were permitted to recertify into the HCCI portion of LIHP.

LIHP provides access to health care coverage to San Diego County residents and creates efficiencies in the delivery of health care services which supports the County “*Live Well, San Diego!*” initiative.

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**Highlighted Change**    Existing LIHP enrollees who were enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10, may recertify into either MCE or HCCI, if otherwise eligible.

Individuals considered “existing” enrollees who have a break in LIHP

certification for a minimum of one (1) month, will no longer be considered “existing” and may **not** enroll or recertify into the **HCCI** portion of LIHP.

A comment has been entered in the IDX System and in the **Member Alerts** tab in the APPLICATION WORKLIST window of CMS IT System (AuthMed) for individuals identified as an “existing” enrollee. Refer to [Appendix 3A](#) to view the “existing HCCI-can recertify into HCCI” comment entry in AuthMed.

The LIHP/CMS Document and LIHP/CMS/CMS Hardship Eligibility Criteria Desk Aids (Attachments A & B) have been updated to reflect 11/01/10 as the enrollment date for “existing” enrollees. The LIHP/CMS Document and LIHP/CMS/CMS Hardship Eligibility Criteria Desk Aids are available in [Article B](#) of the Medi-Cal Program Guide (MPG).

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**Required Action**

Upon receipt of the recertification application, the worker shall:

- process the application as outlined in the [Medi-Cal/LIHP Application Process Eligibility Desk Guide](#);
- verify if “existing HCCI – can recertify into HCCI” comment has been entered in the **Member Alerts** tab in the **APPLICATION WORKLIST** window in AuthMed;
- determine if the “existing” enrollee continues to meet the LIHP eligibility criteria; and
- recertify or discontinue LIHP eligibility, as appropriate. Refer to [BEnDS HCCI](#) for processing existing HCCI enrollees in CalWIN.

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**IDX System Impact**

An “existing HCCI – can recertify into HCCI” comment has been entered on the IDX Eligibility Enrollment Comment Line for individuals identified as “existing” LIHP enrollees.

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**CMS IT System**

An “existing HCCI – can recertify into HCCI” comment has been entered in the **Member Alerts** tab in the **APPLICATION WORKLIST** window of the CMS IT System (AuthMed) for individuals identified as “existing” LIHP enrollees.

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**ACCESS Impact**

No impact.

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**Quality Control**

Effective with the January 2013 review month, Quality Control will cite

**Impact**

the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

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**Summary of Changes**

The table below shows the changes made to Article A of the MPG.

<b>Section</b>	<b>Change</b>
<u>A.02.02N</u>	Added information for enrollees considered "existing".
<u>A.03.02A</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated the Table of Contents</li><li>• Added instructions for existing HCCI enrollees recertifying into LIHP.</li><li>• Added Appendix 3A</li></ul>
<u>A.05.01</u> <u>Appendix 05.01A</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Added CI enrollee effective date and income limit information.</li><li>• Updated to the FPL chart.</li></ul>

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**Approval for Release**

Aug. 12.6.12

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JP

## LIHP/ CMS DOCUMENT REVIEW

### MCE

### HCCI

### CMS

#### Must not meet Medi-Cal eligibility criteria except excess property

- Original** Citizenship & ID Verification/ROP (if not verified via MEDS)
- Qualified Alien (original must be viewed) See MPG [A.04.02](#) for exemptions
- Income 133% FPL (MPG [A.05.01A](#))
- SD County Residency
- LIHP 15 Rights & Responsibilities
- LIHP 23 Coverage Information
- NPP-002 (HIPAA)
- LIHP 19 Grievance & Appeals Rights must be provided

- Must** have been enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10
- Original** Citizenship & ID Verification/ROP (if not verified via MEDS)
- Qualified Alien (original must be viewed) See MPG [A.04.02](#) for exemptions
- Income 200% FPL (MPG [A.05.01A](#))
- SD County Residency
- LIHP 15 Rights & Responsibilities
- LIHP 23 Coverage Information
- NPP-002 (HIPAA)
- LIHP 19 Grievance & Appeals Rights must be provided

#### Must not meet Medi-Cal or LIHP eligibility criteria

- Citizenship & ID Verification
- Legal Permanent Residents (original must be viewed)
- Income: 165% CMS 350% CMS Hardship (CMSPG [06.02A](#))
- SD County Residency
- CMS 15 Rights & Responsibilities
- CMS 23 Coverage Information
- NPP-002 (HIPAA)
- CMS 99 Credit Authorization
- CMS 112 Q&A must be provided
- Liens (CMS 122, CMS 123)
- Property (CMSPG [06.04A](#))

NOTE: If the applicant provides sufficient verifications to determine eligibility for any of the above mentioned programs the worker must complete the eligibility determination. All LIHP/CMS applications are to be evaluated for Medi-Cal first, as outlined in the [Medi-Cal/LIHP Application Process Eligibility Desk Guide](#).

**WORKER WILL NOT DELAY BENEFITS**

# LIHP, CMS, Hardship Eligibility Criteria

<p>LIHP</p> <p>Must Not Meet Medi-Cal Eligibility Criteria, Except Excess Property</p>	<p>CMS/CMS Hardship</p> <p>Must Not Meet Medi-Cal or LIHP Eligibility Criteria</p>
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**MCE**



- 19 - 64 yrs old
- Within 0 to 133% FPL
- US Citizen/National
- Qualified Alien
- SD County Resident
- Asset Waiver

**HCCI**



- Must have been enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10 without a break in aid
- 19 - 64 yrs old
- Over 133% - 200% FPL
- US Citizen/National
- Qualified Alien
- SD County Resident
- Asset Waiver
- Not have Other Health Care Coverage (OHC)

**CMS**



- 21 - 64 yrs old
- Within 0 - 165% FPL
- US Citizen/National
- Qualified Alien
- SD County Resident
- Within CMS property limits
- Liens
- Credit Check

**CMS HARDSHIP**



- 21 - 64 yrs old
- Over 165 - 350% FPL
- US Citizen/National
- Qualified Alien
- SD County Resident
- Within CMS property limits
- Liens
- Credit Check
- Hardship Application CMS-01
- Reimbursement Agreement (CMS-106)

## A.02.02 Eligibility Criteria

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A.02.02N  
Income

### **HCCI Program – Individuals enrolled in HCCI effective 11/01/10:**

The income limit under the HCCI program is up to and including 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Refer to [A.05.01](#) for computation guidelines.

### **MCE Program**

The income limit under the MCE program is up to and including 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Refer to [A.05.01](#) for computation guidelines.

**Note:** Coverage Initiative (CI) was the 1115 Medicaid Waiver program which was replaced by LIHP. The income limit for CI was 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Enrollment into LIHP's HCCI is limited to those individuals who were enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10 and have not had a break in CI and LIHP certification of one (1) month or more.

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## Article A Section 03.02 Recertification

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Certification Period	<a href="#">A.03.02B</a>
Annual Recertification	<a href="#">A.03.02C</a>
Evaluation Process	<a href="#">A.03.02D</a>
<b>CMS IT System Member Comment Screen</b>	<a href="#">Appendix 3A</a>

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## A.03.02 Recertification

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A.03.02A  
General

All LIHP enrollees must have their eligibility for LIHP redetermined every twelve (12) months.

Recertification is a determination that an enrollee continues to meet

the LIHP eligibility criteria and has not had a break in certification for more than one (1) month.

Annual recertifications cannot be more restrictive during the recertification period than those that were in effect during the period of the enrollee’s initial eligibility determination.

“Existing” enrollees, who were enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10, may recertify into either MCE or HCCI, if otherwise eligible.

Individuals considered “existing” enrollees who have a break in CI and LIHP certification for a minimum of one (1) month, will no longer be considered “existing” and may **not** enroll or recertify into the HCCI portion of LIHP. Enrollment in County Medical Services (CMS) after a one month or more break in CI and LIHP certification is considered a break in CI and LIHP certification.

Example	Applicant was approved CI effective 09/01/10 through 08/31/11. At recertification, the application was denied for excess income; CMS was approved effective 09/01/11 through 02/28/12. At next recertification, the CMS beneficiary was within the income limit for HCCI but due to a previous break in CI certification, the beneficiary may <b>not</b> recertify into the HCCI portion of LIHP and is enrolled in CMS.
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A comment has been entered in the IDX System and in the **Member Alerts** tab in the APPLICATION WORKLIST window of CMS IT System (AuthMed) for individuals identified as an “existing” enrollee. Refer to [Appendix 3A](#) to view the “*existing HCCI-can recertify into HCCI*” comment entry in AuthMed.

Upon receipt of the recertification application, the worker shall:

- process the application as outlined in the [Medi-Cal/LIHP Application Process Eligibility Desk Guide](#);
- verify if “*existing HCCI – can recertify into HCCI*” comment has been entered in the **Member Alerts** tab in the APPLICATION WORKLIST window in AuthMed;
- determine if the “existing” enrollee continues to meet the LIHP eligibility criteria; and
- recertify or discontinue LIHP eligibility, as appropriate.

An existing LIHP enrollee enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10, <b>who continues to meet the LIHP eligibility</b>	And if their net monthly income is ...	May...
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criteria...		
without a break in CI and LIHP certification,	up to and including 133% FPL,	recertify into the MCE portion of LIHP.
	<b>above</b> 133% up to and including 200% FPL,	recertify into the HCCI portion of LIHP.
	<b>above</b> 200% FPL,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>not</b> recertify into LIHP; and</li> <li>• may be referred to or be evaluated for CMS.</li> </ul>
with a break in certification,	up to and including 133% FPL,	be re-evaluated for the MCE portion of LIHP.
	<b>above</b> 133% up to and including 200% FPL,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>not</b> recertify or enroll into the HCCI portion of LIHP; and</li> <li>• may be referred to or be evaluated for CMS.</li> </ul>
	<b>above</b> 200% FPL,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>not</b> recertify into LIHP; and</li> <li>• may be referred to or be evaluated for CMS.</li> </ul>

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## Appendix 3A CMS IT System Member Comment Screen

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FROM THE **APPLICATION WORKLIST** WINDOW, CLICK ON THE **MEMBER ALERTS** TAB TO VIEW THE “EXISTING HCCI-CAN RECERTIFY INTO HCCI” COMMENT:

## APPLICATION WORKLIST

Dates Tracking Verifications PCC Budgets Notifications Docs Comments Indicators **Member Alerts** SOC

Current Member Alerts				
Alert	Reason	Date	Created Date	Created By

  

Removed Member Alerts						
Alert	Reason	Date	Created Date	Created By	Removed Date	Removed By

  

Historical IDX Member Alert
existing HCCI-can recertify into HCCI

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### A.05.01 Income

A.05.01A  
General

The CI program was the 1115 Medicaid Waiver program which was replaced by LIHP. Up until 02/14/11, the date the County's LIHP application was submitted to the State, had an income limit of up to and including 200% of the FPL. MCE has an income limit of up to and including 133% FPL. A LIHP enrollee enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10, whose income is below the 200% FPL, can either recertify

into the MCE or HCCI portion of LIHP, if otherwise eligible. Newly enrolled MCE applicants whose income exceeds the 133% FPL are **not** eligible to LIHP. Income must be verified at application, annual recertification or whenever a change in income has been reported.

In order to make a correct budget computation, several factors need to be taken into consideration: Type of income, frequency, allowable deductions, and family size. Gross income is used as a starting point.

To apply the correct income deductions or exemptions, it is necessary to determine whether the reported income is earned or unearned, and if the household composition includes an aged, blind or disabled (ABD) individual.

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## Appendix 05A Federal Poverty Level Chart-Income Limits

Maintenance  
Need Level  
(MNL) –  
Income Limits  
Chart

Person	Effective 4/1/2012	
	MCE 133% Monthly FPL	HCCI 200% Monthly FPL (Enrolled effective 11/01/10)
1	\$1,239	\$1,862
2	\$1,677	\$2,522
3	\$2,116	\$3,182
4	\$2,555	\$3,842
5	\$2,994	\$4,502
6	\$3,433	\$5,162
7	\$3,872	\$5,822
8	\$4,311	\$6,482
9	\$4,750	\$7,142
10	\$5,189	\$7,802
Add for additional members	+439	+660

**Note:** A LIHP enrollee enrolled in CI effective 11/01/10, whose income is below the 200% FPL, can either recertify into the MCE or HCCI portion of LIHP, if otherwise eligible.

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