

Payment Verification System (PVS)

Payment Verification System (PVS) is a monthly match performed by California Department of Social Services (CDSS) that compares data from the Medi-Cal Master Extract File (MMEF) against the Unemployment Insurance and Disability Insurance (UI/DI) records maintained by the Employment Development Department (EDD) and the Master Beneficiary File for Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance (RSDI) records maintained by the Social Security Administration (SSA). The match also provides information on recipients reported as being on aid in two or more states at the same time from the SSA's Beneficiary Data Exchange (BENDEX).

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History

The PVS has been available for the CalWORKs (formerly known as AFDC) program since 1983. In 1984, Public Law 98-369, also known as the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984, section 2651 formally required states to establish an Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) for food stamps (currently known as CalFresh) and AFDC (currently known as CalWORKs). In February 1986, Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 205.55 required states to check wages and income every three months. With the start of the statewide implementation of IEVS in July 1987, the Non-Assistance Food Stamp (NAFS) and Medi-Cal Only population were added to PVS. Additionally, in June 1988, Foster Care (FC) was included in the PVS reports, which is sent to counties for informational purposes only. SSA's Beneficiary Data Exchange (BENDEX) component was added in 1994.

Data Sources

The data come from:

- Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Social Security Administration (SSA)
- Medi-Cal Master Extract File (MMEF) from Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

Criteria

The PVS is composed of three parts:

1. Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance (RSDI) Match

- The RSDI is matched on SSN, gender, and date of birth.
- After the initial benefit is reported to the county, no other report for that individual will be generated until the benefit amount changes--the RSDI report is only generated when a change occurs.

2. Unemployment Insurance and Disability Insurance (UI/DI) Match

- The UI/DI match is made on SSN only.
- The UI/DI report includes the date that the last claim entered EDD's file, the beginning date of the claim, maximum benefits, weekly benefit amount, and remaining benefits. Reports will be sent each month whether or not there was a benefit or status change from the prior report.
- The UI and DI information is current. It includes about 15 to 18 days of the prior month and the entire month before that. EXAMPLE: a printout received by the county on or about November 8 will contain all UI and DI payments made between August 1 and approximately October 17.
- Persons receiving UI/DI from another state, or who receive state Non-Industrial Disability benefits are not included in this match.

3. Beneficiary Data Exchange (BENDEX) Match

- The match is made on SSA, name, gender, date of birth, and the person must be collecting RSDI benefits.
- Each month, all states send a file to SSA to obtain RSDI information on active CalWORKs and CalFresh recipients.
- SSA compares the input files to their master files to look for new additions.
- When a new addition appears on a state's file that matches with an existing SSA master file active record of another state, a message is sent back to both states. It is then the responsibility of the local agencies to contact each other.

The messages that appear on the PVS abstract are:

"CF" – A person is active in California and has moved to another state, so the other state is trying to add them to the SSA master file. BENDEX information will be transferred to the other state.

"WAS" – A person is on aid in another state and has moved to California, so California is trying to add them to the SSA master file. BENDEX information will be transferred to California.

Tolerance Level

There is no tolerance level for the PVS. The consortia will receive information for each record that has a match.

Frequency

The match is sent monthly. The consortia can expect the report between the 5th and 10th of every month.

Method

The PVS is accessible through the CDSS Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) server. The consortia retrieve the abstract reports from the SFTP server and can be viewed as a PDF or printed and used to perform the validation.

Age of Data

PVS is considered to be verified upon receipt because the information comes directly from the benefit issuing agencies.

- UI/DI match includes about 15 to 18 days of prior month data and the entire month before that – the data is one month old at the time when the match process is completed.
- RSDI match includes amount paid in the prior month and the amount to be paid in the current month if different from prior month's benefits.

Mandates

The requirements to the PVS are:

- Federal Mandate: Public Law 98-369
- 45 CFR 205.55 requires states to obtain UI and RSDI information on a monthly basis.
- This match must meet the 45 day requirement ([MPP 20-006.421](#)) for open aid cases. Current federal rules prescribe that action may be delayed beyond the 45-day time frame on no more than 20 percent of the IEVS case matches.
- According to federal law, closed cases should be processed by “the last day of the quarter following the quarter in which the data was received” (within 90-160 days depending when the data was received) in order to ensure timely claim establishment.

Notes
