June 28, 2012

ALL-COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. 12-31

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
    ALL ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) PROGRAM
    MANAGERS

SUBJECT: ALTERED ACCESS TO MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY DATA SYSTEM
    (MEDS) DATA ELEMENTS FOR APS CASE WORK

This ACL provides information to the counties regarding accessibility to the Medi-Cal
Eligibility Data System (MEDS) by the county APS agencies. Effective June 30, 2012,
counties shall not access MEDS for the purposes of APS case work. MEDS may
continue to be accessed for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) case work.

Access to the Social Security Administration (SSA) data, which is maintained in MEDS,
requires strict adherence to security and privacy requirements. In order to comply with
these requirements, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) reviewed
programs for whether the data is used for purposes of determining eligibility for federally
funded benefit programs or approved state funded benefit programs. Because the APS
program requirements do not require federal or state eligibility or a means test for APS
services, APS program staff may not access MEDS for its case work. However,
counties may continue to access MEDS for the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
case work. For this reason, MEDS access codes will not be withdrawn from county
agencies.

In order to provide adequate access to data needed by county APS staff to operate the
APS program and serve APS clients in an efficient manner, CDSS has contacted the
Department of Health Care Services regarding the need to obtain access to data
elements via a system referred to as “MEDSLite” (a subset of MEDS). CDSS recently
surveyed county APS agencies to determine the data elements needed. As a result of
the statewide survey, CDSS will request access to 113 data elements. CDSS is
currently in the process of obtaining access to MEDSLite, and will inform county APS
agencies once development has been completed.
If you have questions regarding this information on accessing MEDSLite you may contact Charissa S. Miguelino, Chief, Adult Programs Policy and Operations Bureau, at (916) 651-5350.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

EILEEN CARROLL
Deputy Director
Adult Programs Division