
If a Medi-Cal beneficiary is being discontinued, but alleges disability as a basis for Medi-Cal eligibility, the county must refer the case to the Disability and Adult Programs Division (DAPD) for a disability evaluation. The county must also continue Medi-Cal pending the disability determination. The county is not required however, to allow for disability income deductions unless the county receives a determination from DAPD that the beneficiary is disabled.

There is no need for the county to take the third step of the SB 87 process if the county is able to establish the beneficiary's eligibility or ineligibility in the ex parte or direct contact steps. The eligibility worker will have to take the second step (i.e., reach the recipient by telephone) before discontinuing Medi-Cal to make a determination of eligibility or ineligibility because the beneficiary may allege pregnancy or disability or provide other relevant information not in the beneficiary's file. If the eligibility worker completes a thorough telephone interview and determines that the beneficiary is not eligible for Medi-Cal-Only benefits, there is no need for the eligibility worker to send the MC355 form.

ACWDLs 90-07 and 97-48 establish that counties are required to make two contacts prior to denying Medi-Cal for an applicant or discontinuing Medi-Cal for a beneficiary. SB 87 applies to beneficiaries only. SB 87 thus supercedes the two contact requirement stated in 90-07 and 97-48 as they apply to beneficiaries. The two contact requirement stated in 90-07 and 97-48 still applies to applicants.

*California Department of Social Services - State Hearings Division
Notes from the Training Bureau - May 1, 2003*

Item 03-05-01A

ACWDL 02-55 -- November 13, 2002 (Synopsis): January 2003 Social Security Title II and Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment Cost Of Living Adjustments and Related Issues

This ACWDL advises that the 2003 Social Security COLA is 1.4%. This ACWDL also provides:

- 2003 In-kind Support and Maintenance Values.
- 2003 SSI/SSP payment levels chart-The level for an individual in an independent living arrangement is \$757 and for a couple is \$1344 from January 2003 through May 2003. The SSI/SSP payment level increases to \$778 for an individual and \$1382 for a couple effective June 2003 through December 2003.
- A 2003 Pickle disregard computation chart.
- The 2003 Medicare Part B premium is \$58.70.
- The 2003 Federal Benefit Rate is \$552 for an individual and \$829 for a couple.

*California Department of Social Services - State Hearings Division
Notes from the Training Bureau - April 22, 2003*

Item 03-04-02H

ACIN I-18-03 April 8, 2003 (Synopsis): Summary of Food Stamp Policy Changes