
Item 03-10-01A**ACIN I-23-03 April 24, 2003 (Synopsis): Noncitizen Eligibility Guide****Reference: Administrative Notice 03-12**

This ACIN transmits the Noncitizen Eligibility Guide provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The guide provides a history of noncitizen eligibility for food stamps beginning with the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996. It discusses changes since PRWORA that include restoration of food stamps for many immigrants.

Such changes include:

- Restoration of food stamps to legal immigrants who were in the United States before August 22, 1996 and were elderly, children or disabled.
- Effective October 2002, restoration of eligibility to all legal immigrants who receive disability benefits.
- Effective April 2003, restoration of eligibility for qualified aliens who have lived in the United States for five years.
- Effective October 2003, restoration to all qualified children without a waiting period.

The guide is written in question and answer format. This 38-page guide is divided into the following sections:

- General Eligibility
- Eligibility Based on Five Year Residency
- Sponsor-to-Immigrant Deeming
- Sponsor Liability
- Determination of 40 Qualifying Quarters of Work
- Treatment of Illegal Immigrants Income and Resources
- Reporting Illegal and Indigent Immigrants
- Public Charge
- Verification of Immigrant Status
- Victims of Severe Form of Trafficking and Battered Immigrants
- Major Legislation Affecting Immigrants in the Food Stamp Program

*California Department of Social Services - State Hearings Division
Notes from the Training Bureau - August 13, 2003*

Item 03-08-04F**ACWDL 03-41 July 8, 2003 (Synopsis): Medi-Cal Midyear Status Report (MSR)****Reference: Senate Bill (SB) X1 26; ACWDLs 01-36, 01-39 and 02-59**

Effective August 1, 2003, SB X1 26 added W&IC §14011.16, which mandates the use of semiannual reporting requirements. Children under age 19 and persons who qualify for Medi-Cal because they are aged, blind or disabled are exempt from this reporting requirement.

Additionally, the DHS is permitted to and has exempted the following groups from mandatory MSR requirements:

- .. Pregnant women whose only eligibility is based on pregnancy.
- .. Individuals under age 21.
- .. Beneficiaries receiving Medi-Cal through Aid for Adoptive Children.
- .. Beneficiaries who have a Public Guardian.
- .. Medically Indigent Children who are not living with a parent or relative and who have a public agency assuming their financial responsibility.
- .. Individuals receiving Minor Consent services.
- .. Beneficiaries in the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program.
- .. Beneficiaries who are CalWORKs recipients and custodial parents whose children are CalWORKs recipients.

All Medi-Cal beneficiaries, including those exempt from MSR requirements are still required to report changed circumstances to the county within 10 days.

The MSR form is an MC176 S form. Beneficiaries are not required to submit documentation at this stage of the reporting process. Counties however, may request documentation if they cannot determine eligibility from the explanation provided from the beneficiary on the MC176 S.

Counties are required to mail the MSR form to the beneficiary by the 10th of the month prior to the month the MSR form is due. Beneficiaries must complete and return the MSR by the 5th of the due month.

This ACWDL goes on to explain MSR processing. It notes that the eligibility of children will not be effected if the parent or caretaker fails to meet MSR requirements. This ACWDL gives explanations of when an MSR is considered complete, what is an incomplete MSR and the process the county must follow for an incomplete MSR, what the county must do if an MSR is not received and what the county must do if the MSR is received within 30 days after the discontinuance date (if the MSR is returned complete within 30 days after the discontinuance date, and continued eligibility exists the discontinuance is rescinded).

This ACWDL also references income documentation and intercounty transfers. It provides a copy of the MC176 S and provides MSR example case situations.

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