

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS



March 18, 1974

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 74-48

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

This follows up the November 14, 1973 letter to all counties concerning the above mentioned subject. Counties have raised questions on Item 5 in that letter which reads as follows:

MR children in (N) type facilities and convalescent homes are eligible for Medi-Cal payments for this type of care.

I would like to further clarify this statement by explaining that these children are eligible for Medi-Cal benefits only in the same sense as all recipients of a categorical aid. A Medi-Cal payment only covers the costs of health services reimbursable under the Medi-Cal Program for recipients in (N) type facilities not the costs of care or maintenance. The costs of board and care should be claimed as a BHI assistance payment while the costs of medical expenses should be claimed, where possible, as Medi-Cal costs.

This should be distinguished from payments for MR children in convalescent homes where the total cost of care is reimbursable as a Medi-Cal payment since a convalescent home is considered a medical type institution.

Further questions on this may be directed to the AFDC Program Operations Bureau (916) 445-4458.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis O. Flatt".

DENNIS O. FLATT
Deputy Director
Payment Operations

cc: CWDA