

## **All County Welfare Directors Letter, October 13, 2009 Healthy Families Program Wait List**

Below is an "All County Letter" from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) regarding Healthy Families Wait List issues. To clarify some of the timing issues in the letter:

- MRMIB is still processing all of the applications from the wait list- this means your clients may still not be enrolled in the program- some families may need additional assistance in providing updated proof of income documents to MRMIB.
- If/when the child is enrolled, the start date of coverage is 10 calendar days after the child is enrolled ~~ Example: If the "wait listed" application is processed and approved on October 1st, the coverage for the child will begin on October 11th. The enrollment date would also be Oct. 11th; families will be receiving a letter with the effective date of coverage.
- If Healthy Families sends the application back down to the local DPSS office (because the income is too low for HF) DPSS will use the original application date.
- If a family submitted an application on July 18, 2009, a Medi-Cal eligibility determination will be made beginning July even though the application was not received until October.



DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY  
*Director*

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Care Services**



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
*Governor*

October 13, 2009

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 09-48  
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIASONS  
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES  
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: RESCIND THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM (HFP) WAIT LIST  
Ref: All County Welfare Director's Letter (ACWDL) 09-39

The purpose of this letter is to provide notification to counties that on September 16, 2009, the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) had sufficient funds to avoid disenrolling children during the Annual Eligibility Review process and to open the program to new enrollment. This letter, therefore, rescinds policy instructions issued on July 16, 2009, in ACWDL No.09-39 regarding the HFP Wait List for children. The rescission of the HFP Wait List was made possible with the passage of Assembly Bill 1422 that provided revenues for the HFP along with funding commitment from the First Five Commission. The HFP has opened the program to enrollment on September 17, 2009, and has already begun processing applications from the waiting list.

MRMIB is estimating that the HFP will take approximately 30 business days to process all the applications for the wait-listed children and to notify families as to their children's eligibility. All applications are being processed based on the date of application, with the oldest application being processed first. If the child is eligible for HFP and is enrolled in HFP, the actual start date of coverage begins 10 calendar days after the child is enrolled. In the event HFP determines that the income is below the HFP guidelines based on the acceptable proof of income that is used (i.e. family might provide new income documentation that was not previously submitted with the original application), the HFP will forward the application to the county welfare department (CWD). The CWD transmittal will preserve and identify the original application received date at Single Point of Entry.

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There is no change to the current Medi-Cal to HFP referral process, including the Medi-Cal to HFP Bridging Program. Counties shall continue to forward all HFP eligible children to the HFP at initial Medi-Cal determination and Annual Redetermination when a child is determined to be share-of-cost eligible, but the family income is within the HFP income guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Rose Pankratz, of my staff, at (916) 650-0140 or [rose.pankratz@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:rose.pankratz@dhcs.ca.gov).

Original Signed By

Vivian Auble, Chief  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division