

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



GAVIN NEWSOM GOVERNOR

Date: February 9, 2021

- TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 21-02 ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS
- SUBJECT: 2021 Medicare Savings Program Property Limit (Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter No.: <u>20-07</u>)

Effective January 1, 2021, this letter revises the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) property limit amounts to be used in determining eligibility. This guidance is effective immediately. The Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) must make programming changes for the 2021 MSP property limits during the next available SAWS release.

Counties must review all MSP denials and discontinuances back to January 1, 2021, and re-evaluate eligibility based upon the revised property limit amounts.

## **MSP 2021 Property Limits**

The property limits used to determine MSP eligibility will increase in 2021. The limits are \$7,970.00 for an individual and \$11,960.00 for a couple. Federal law sets the MSP property limits at three times the Supplemental Security income property limit plus an annual percentage increase equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Note: Per Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letters (MEDILs) <u>120-07</u>, <u>120-08,120-18</u>, <u>120-25</u>, and <u>120-26</u>, counties must delay processing of Medi-Cal annual renewals, and defer discontinuances and other negative actions based on the declared State and National Emergency due to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). The county shall continue to process determinations or redeterminations for those individuals who would gain access to health care coverage and resolve barriers related to access to care.

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If you have any questions regarding property, please contact Teresa Jones at (916) 345-8151 or by e-mail at <u>Teresa.Jones@dhcs.ca.gov</u>.

## **Original Signed By**

Linda Nguyen, Chief Policy Development Branch Medi-Cal Eligibility Division