

**COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM (CMSP)  
ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**August 31, 2023  
1545 River Park Drive, Suite 435-A  
Sacramento, CA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deborah Martinez, Madera County Department of Social Services, CHAIR (remote)  
Lisa Fletcher, Tuolumne County Department of Social Services (remote)  
Laurel Johnson, Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (remote)  
Danielle Niemi, Marin County Health & Human Services Agency (remote)  
Rosa Vivian Fernandez, San Benito Health Foundation (remote)  
Anthony Wright, Health Access California (in-person)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Deborah Martinez, Chair, called the meeting to order and Committee members introduced themselves. There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

The Committee voted and approved the minutes of the September 7, 2016 meeting. Rosa Vivian Fernandez and Anthony Wright abstained from the vote.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCY**

Alison Kellen, CMSP Program Director, advised that there is one vacant Committee position for a county representative. A request for interest in joining the Committee was emailed out to counties. Jonna Sharp, Program Planning & Evaluation Analyst, with Sonoma County expressed interest in joining the Committee. The Committee voted and approved to recommend to the Governing Board that Jonna Sharp be added to the CMSP Eligibility Committee roster.

**CMSP UPDATES**

The Committee discussed the unwinding of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and the State's process for identifying cases to be discontinued. Representatives from Marin, El Dorado, and Sonoma counties reported experiencing incorrect CMSP cases on the Department of Care Services (DHCS) discontinuance lists and have raised the issue with the DHCS.

Guillermo Velazquez, CMSP Eligibility Analyst, provided the Committee with an overview of the CMSP, Connect to Care and Path to Health programs eligibility requirements and enrollment process. Anthony Wright asked about the transition process of Path to Health members to full scope Medi-Cal. Ms. Kellen advised that the remaining restricted scope Medi-Cal enrollees, who are also enrolled in Path to Health, will be discontinued from Path to Health on December 31, 2023 and their full scope Medi-Cal coverage will be effective January 1, 2024. Mr. Wright advised that other, non-CMSP counties are looking at expanding coverage for the uninsured by increasing age and income limits. Kari Brownstein, CMSP Executive Director, reminded the Committee that CMSP's upper income limit is 300%. Ms. Brownstein asked Mr. Wright to advise where the gaps are in coverage for the remaining uninsured and bring that information back to CMSP.

Ms. Brownstein provided an overview of the CMSP Governing Board's Strategic Planning efforts in 2022 and reviewed a handout entitled "Status of Strategic Planning Concepts Approved by the CMSP Governing Board". Ms. Brownstein advised that the Board took action to approve five initiatives:

1. Healthcare Infrastructure Development (HID) Matching Grant Program, implemented February 2023.
2. Align CMSP dental, vision, and hearing benefit coverage with Medi-Cal, implemented July 2023.
3. Full Scope benefits for CMSP Aid Code 50 members, implemented July 2023.
4. Partner with UCSF Healthforce Center to conduct a workforce study, slated to be completed in December 2023.
5. Modify the mCase enrollment system currently used for Path to Health and Connect to Care to allow for CMSP applications, slated to be completed in 2024.

Discussion ensued about the modifications to the mCase enrollment system. Attendees suggested testing duplicate client index numbers (CIN) in the Medi-Cal Enrollment System (MEDS). CMSP staff confirmed that CMSP applications will also be accepted and processed by counties. Attendees suggested an All-County Letter be issued to address reapplications, change of circumstances, and county denial triggers. Ms. Brownstein requested that attendees email any additional suggested scenarios to Ms. Kellen.

### **PROPOSED CMSP ELIGIBILITY MANUAL CHANGES**

Ms. Kellen advised that the CMSP Eligibility Manual was last updated in Spring 2020. The Ad Hoc Eligibility Resources Workgroup met in July 2023 and reviewed the CMSP Eligibility Manual. The following suggested manual updates were made:

- A. Create definition of Prospective Applicant (pages 1-3, 1-17, 3-8, 3-12)
- B. Remove definition and reference to Restricted Scope CMSP Benefits (pages 1-4, 1-12, 1-19, 5-7, 5-8, 5-9)
- C. Remove reference to CMSP County Wellness and Prevention Pilot (pages 3-1, 3-8)
- D. Update reference to Applications Subject to Covered California Open Enrollment (pages 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7)
- E. Update reference to CMSP informational flyer (page 3-8)
- F. Add additional methods to value boats, campers and trailers (page 7-23)
- G. Remove clothing from in-kind chart (page 8-10)
- H. Add documentation of income for educational purposes (page 8-20)
- I. Modify language regarding health insurance premium deductions (page 8-25)

Discussion ensued amongst Committee members. The Committee voted to approve the suggested changes to Items B, C, E, F, G, H, and I. Item A requires further revisions to clarify that the CMSP Supplemental Application was returned and when a Notice of Action (NOA) is required. Committee members suggested that the CMSP Governing Board consider removing the requirement that an applicant must apply for Covered California and suggested that Item D be further updated. CMSP staff will make the suggested additional wording changes to Items A and D. Committee Members Lisa Fletcher, Laurel Johnson, and Danielle Niemi volunteered to review the revised, proposed CMSP Eligibility Manual containing the Committee's feedback on

the Prospective Applicant definition and the Covered California references prior to the language being sent out the full Committee for comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Wright advised that CMSP could consider updating the asset test to align with Medi-Cal and institute an annual enrollment term instead of a 6-month enrollment term.