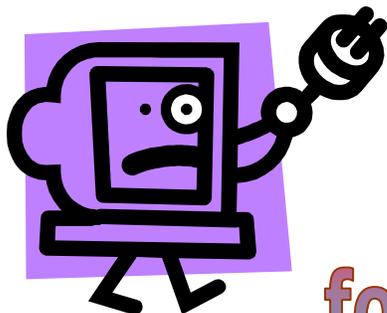


RMD Bulletin

Knowledge is power...



MEDS Access **DISCONTINUED** for Contract Providers



In compliance with Federal regulations and Social Security Administration guidelines on maintaining the privacy of individual health information, the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), which owns and is responsible for the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS), has terminated permission to access MEDS for all those who are not directly employed by county departments. DHCS is requiring each county mental health department to identify those individuals who are not county employees and immediately terminate MEDS access.

Effective July 13, 2009, providers are no longer to access MEDS for verification of Medi-Cal eligibility. Medi-Cal eligibility may be verified in the Integrated System (IS) or providers may use one of the alternate methods of verifying eligibility outlined in RMD Bulletin NGA 09-016 Alternative Methods for Checking Medi-Cal Eligibility, to identify if the client is currently eligible for Medi-Cal.

All non-governmental agencies contracted with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health will lose access to MEDS to verify their clients' Medi-Cal eligibility. However providers entering and submitting their claims directly into the IS must continue to perform the IS Medi-Cal eligibility check in order for eligible claims to be forwarded to Medi-Cal; agencies that submit claims using electronic data interchange will also lose MEDS access but do not have to perform the IS eligibility check. For additional information, please refer to RMD Bulletins NGA 09-023 How to do an "Eligibility Check" on the Medi-Cal Website; NGA 09-024 Checking Medi-Cal Eligibility with the Automated Eligibility Verification System (AEVS); and NGA 09-025 How to Conduct an Eligibility Check on the Point of Service Device (POS).

We're here to help you...

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact RMD at (213) 480-3444 or RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov.