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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

November 10, 2011

TO: RYAN WHITE PART B CONTRACTORS AND  
AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: DEADLINE REMINDER AND UPDATE: LOW INCOME HEALTH  
PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SCREENING PLANS DUE NEXT  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011

This is an update to information already provided and a reminder that **the deadline for submitting plans for integrating Low Income Health Program (LIHP) screening is next Wednesday, November 15, 2011.**

Guidelines for developing plans were detailed in the [Ryan White Part B Planning Process: Low-Income Health Program Screening Guidance Number One \(PDF\)](#) released by the California Department of Public Health, Center for Infectious Diseases, Office of AIDS (OA) on September 14, 2011. These guidelines indicate that the plans are to include:

- A description of how and when LIHP screening of Ryan White (RW) Part B clients will be implemented in the county, including:
  - A list of the RW Part B contractors [HIV Care Program (HCP) and pharmacies] **that are also current LIHP contractors**, the date the LIHP screening of new and existing clients will begin in these facilities and the plan for how screening will occur;
  - A list of the RW Part B contractors (HCP and pharmacies) **that have no plans to become a LIHP contractor**, the date the LIHP screening of new and existing clients will begin in these facilities and the plan for how screening will occur; and

- A list of RW Part B contractors (HCP and pharmacies) **that are in the process of or considering developing LIHP contracts**, and for each facility, the status of LIHP contract development, the anticipated LIHP screening implementation date and the provisional plan to implement LIHP screening once the LIHP contract is approved.
- Signatures of the RW Part B contractor and AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) coordinator must be included.

In addition to the items listed above that were covered in the September 14, 2011 guidelines, **please include in your plan a summary of your county's intent to utilize a LIHP enrollment cap and the anticipated date of implementation or if there is no intent to cap enrollment.**

Counties that have already written their plans, or are already screening for LIHP, should not wait until the deadline to submit them and are strongly encouraged to submit their plans as soon as possible.

**There has been a change in to who the plans are to be submitted.** Please submit them to Daniel Coronado, OA, at e-mail: [Daniel.Coronado@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Daniel.Coronado@cdph.ca.gov).

OA will contact the RW Part B contractor addressed in this letter to schedule a call to review the submitted plan. These calls will be conducted before November 22, 2011. During the conference call, OA will be interested in reviewing:

- A. Any elements missing from submitted plans;
- B. The county's relevant updates since the plan was submitted;
- C. How familiar counties are with their LIHP program (including eligibility requirements) and the steps taken to create their LIHP screening plan;
- D. If the county intends to institute a LIHP enrollment cap and dates of implementation if they have not already been provided; and
- E. Other questions to further assess the extent to which the county considered access to HIV care and medications for clients within their county including:
  - 1. Did the county consider the RW agencies that provide LIHP core or add-on benefits and approximate number of clients receiving these benefits?

2. Which services will LIHP cover and which will RW continue to cover?
3. Will the county allow the LIHP provider network to be expanded?
4. Did the county identify the LIHP provider and pharmacy reimbursement rates?
5. Did the county reach out to RW A, C, and D programs to determine if there are any clients who are not ADAP clients but would be LIHP eligible?
6. Did the county consider the approximate number of ADAP clients that need to move to a new pharmacy and the impact of this change?
7. How will the LIHP pharmacy network differ from the ADAP network?
8. Did the county assess how many clients served at LIHP clinics are also served at non-LIHP pharmacies?
9. Did the county consider when clients transition to a new pharmacy whether it is reasonably close to their clinic and primary medical site so that they can access their drugs and whether or not it provides the same set of services (i.e., adherence and practical support)?
10. Did the county consider the number of LIHP eligible clients the non-LIHP contracted clinics serve and therefore how many clients have to transition to a new clinic?
11. Does the LIHP network include providers that have HIV expertise as well as cultural and linguistic capability to serve the patients who have to transition, particularly those with multiple diagnoses and/or psycho-social factors that make them particularly vulnerable to relapse or loss to care?
12. Did the county consider how transitioning clients will get their first appointment with a new provider and in what period of time?

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Please contact Ayanna Kiburi, Chief, HIV Care Branch, OA, for HCP-related questions at (916) 449-5819 or by e-mail at: [Ayanna.Kiburi@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Ayanna.Kiburi@cdph.ca.gov). For ADAP-related questions, please contact Jill Somers, Chief, ADAP Branch, OA, at (916) 449-5942 or e-mail at: [Jill.Somers@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Jill.Somers@cdph.ca.gov). Please submit LIHP-specific questions to the California Department of Health Care Services at e-mail: [LIHP@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:LIHP@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

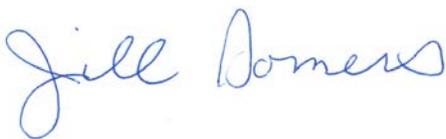


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