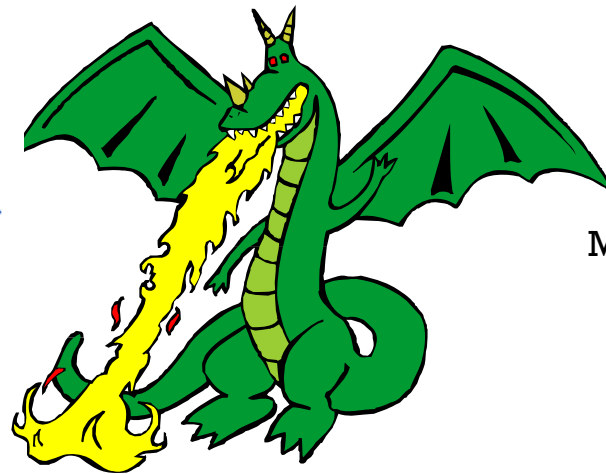


The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA)'s Medicaid Citizenship Documentation Rule Or How to be a DRAGON Slayer!



Maternal and Child Health Access



Made possible by the generous support of L.A. Care Health Plan

NEW
DRA
CITIZENSHIP
DOCUMENTATION
RULES



What does the DRA require?



Most U.S. **citizens and nationals** who apply for or currently have Medi-Cal must show proof of their identity and citizenship status.

Are Non-Citizen immigrants
still eligible for Medi-Cal?



Yes! Non-citizen
immigrants are not
affected by the DRA



Does the DRA require
anything new from
non-Citizen immigrants?



NO!

Non-citizens should follow existing
Medi-Cal documentation rules for
immigration status and identity.

Not all U.S. citizens applying for or on Medi-Cal have to produce documents! EXCEPTIONS!

*On SSI or Social
Security Disability*

On CalWORKS



On Medicare

*Presumptive Eligibility
(Pregnancy, BCCTP)*

*Deemed Eligible
Infants, Foster Care,
Adoption Assistance,
Kin-Gap*

**Accelerated
Eligibility,
CHDP, School
Lunch, SPE**

Minor Consent

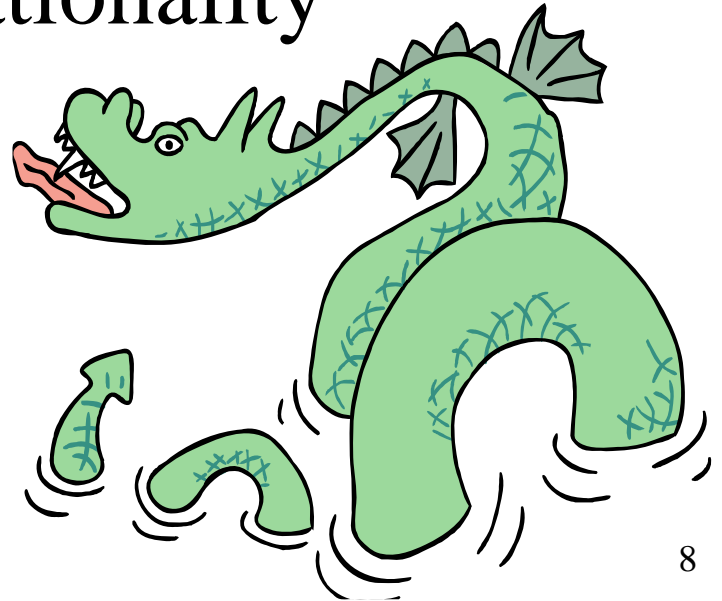
The DRA rules for U.S. Citizens and Nationals Are Different for Applicants vs. Recipients



Applicants must provide documents BEFORE being found eligible for full scope benefits

- ORIGINAL or certified proof of citizenship or U.S. nationality
- Proof of identity*

* Special rules for proof of identity for children under 16



Recipients must provide proof at Annual Redetermination

- ORIGINAL or certified proof of citizenship
- Proof of identity
- If recipients make a “Good Faith Effort ” to provide documents they should stay on full scope Medi-Cal benefits



Good Faith Effort



- Applicant or recipient demonstrates effort to obtain and present satisfactory documents to meet the DRA requirements.
- Can be verbal or written.
- County must consider individual circumstances.

Reasonable Time to Provide Documents

The time needed for the applicant or recipient to obtain valid documentation based upon:

- Individual circumstances
- Ability to obtain documentation
- Individual's good faith efforts



Documents are only required ONE TIME

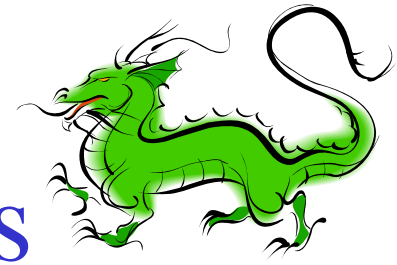


Includes Medi-Cal applicants or beneficiaries:

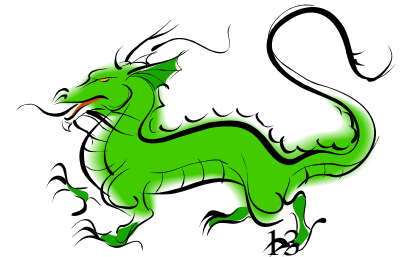
- Moving from another county in California
- Moving from out of state and who had Medicaid and already documented citizenship under the DRA in that state



Acceptable Documents



- U.S. Citizenship document must show:
 - U.S. place of birth, or
 - That person is a U.S. citizen or national
 - 4 tiers in decreasing order of reliability
 - Counties must assume that clients provide the most reliable evidence clients have
- Identity document must show:
 - Identifying information relating to person named in the document (tier 5)



California Birth Matches


- State DHCS will check California birth records electronically. If there is a match it will be noted in the MEDS system. This is highly reliable proof.
- Applicants or recipients with a birth record match in MEDS will NOT have to provide any document to prove citizenship.
- BUT they will have to provide proof of identity unless under 16 years old
- If under 16, parental signature will provide proof of identity



**State will be sending a DRA notice
to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.**

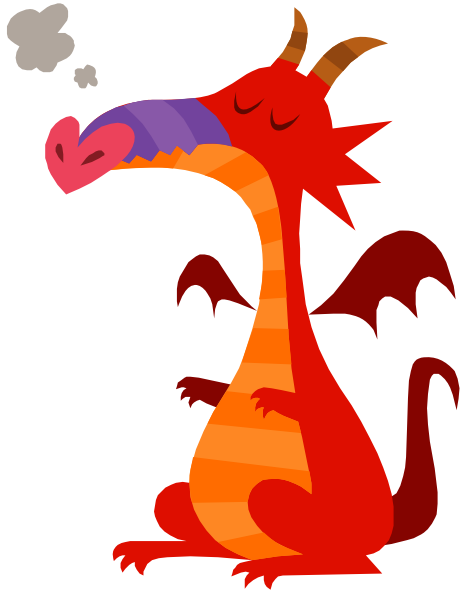


County Obligation to Assist



County must provide reasonable assistance to applicants and recipients in obtaining evidence of citizenship and identity.

L.A. Implementation



DPSS is working on how and when to implement the DRA.

L.A. Implementation



Don't Worry!

If clients do not have the necessary documents, advise them not to worry. The County has many ways to help clients obtain the documents.

L.A. Implementation



- DPSS will check MEDS to determine if individual is already known to system and has a birth record match in MEDS.
- If no match, and client claims California birth, DPSS will initiate a Vital Records Match
- If match found, DPSS will add information to MEDS and LEADER

L.A. Implementation



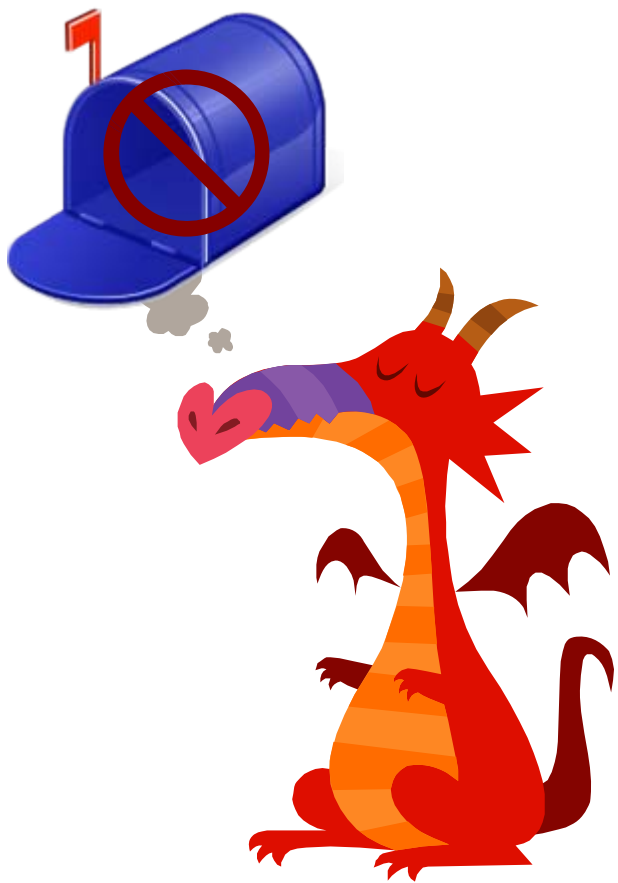
- If person born outside of California is unable to provide document, DPSS will initiate and pay for request for out-of-state birth certificate.

L.A. Implementation



- For naturalized citizens unable to provide document, DPSS may do SAVE inquiry to Department of Homeland Security

L.A. Implementation



We recommend that people do not put important original documents in the mail to DPSS.

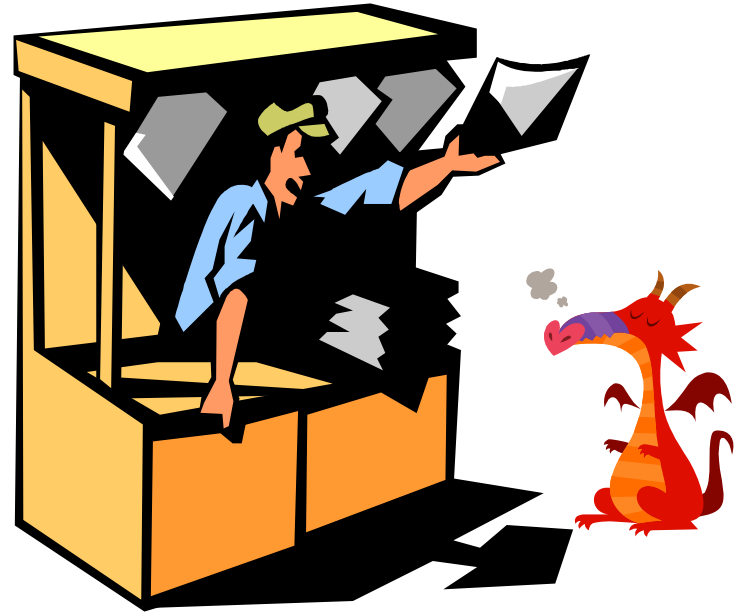
L.A. Implementation



Clients should wait for a message from L.A. County DPSS before they submit DRA documents

L.A. Implementation

- DPSS will have special lobby teams in many welfare offices
- Applicants/beneficiaries can bring in original documents
- DPSS will copy, return and give receipt
- Only needs to be done once!



L.A. Implementation

If application pending 25 days awaiting citizenship documentation, DPSS will:

- Contact individual by phone to find out if applicant is trying to obtain documents
- Document individual's good faith effort
- Send Affidavit of Reasonable Effort to Get Proof of Citizenship if unable to reach individual by telephone



L.A. Implementation

If individual does not provide documentation, DPSS will make at least two attempts to contact individual within 45 days of application.



DPSS must accept any reasonable explanation showing individual's good faith efforts, as well as all circumstances making applicant incapable of complying with request for documents



L.A. Implementation

- DPSS will provide reasonable assistance, including home calls to obtain documents from individuals with disabilities or the elderly who are unable to provide documents by mail or in person



L.A. Implementation

L.A. Department of Health Services will use the same procedures as DPSS for DRA compliance





DRA help available for consumers

HCC Telephone Hotline:

1-800-896-3203

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays &

Fridays:

9:00 AM - 11:45 AM

**FREE TO ALL LOS ANGELES COUNTY
RESIDENTS WITH AN INCOME UP TO 200% FPL**