

DRA Citizenship/ID Rules Fact Sheet

What is the DRA?	Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 requiring evidence of citizenship and identification as a condition of Medi-Cal eligibility
Implementation dates	California implemented regulations in July 2007 Sonoma County operationalized in April 2008
Who is affected?	All citizens or nationals of the U.S. who apply for or receive Medi-Cal, with certain exceptions
Who is exempt?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSI beneficiaries • Social Security Disability beneficiaries • Social Security Retirement and Survivors Insurance beneficiaries who receive benefits based on their own disability • Medicare beneficiaries • Some others
What about non-citizens?	<i>These rules do not apply to non-citizens.</i> The rules for documented and undocumented immigrants have not changed.
What do applicants and beneficiaries have to provide?	<p>Acceptable evidence of citizenship must be original documents. Acceptable documents that satisfy both the citizenship and ID (First Tier) requirement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Passport without limitations • Certificate of Naturalization • Certificate of Citizenship <p>*Acceptable documents that satisfy just the citizenship requirement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original or certified birth certificate • Many other documents issued by the U.S. Government that verify citizenship status both for those born abroad and for Native Americans. <p>*If someone does not have one of the First Tier documents, they will need to verify identity with a separate document, such as a Driver's license or ID card, as well as other acceptable documents.</p>
When?	<p>All <i>citizen</i> applicants for Medi-Cal must provide citizenship and identity verifications at application in order to receive full scope benefits. If unable to provide within a reasonable time frame, they can be granted restricted, emergency only benefits.</p> <p>All <i>citizen</i> beneficiaries must provide citizenship and identity verifications at the time of their annual redetermination.</p>
How long do you have to provide verification?	<p>At application initially 20 days. If it is taking longer to obtain, our staff will work with you and keep your application pending.</p> <p>For annual redeterminations, you will be given as long as needed. As long as you are demonstrating that You are trying to obtain verification, benefits will remain at full-scope level.</p>
What assistance is available?	The first thing Human Services will do is attempt to verify citizenship for a person born in California via a data match with CA Vital Statistics. If not born in California the department can assist the applicant or beneficiary with identifying where they can obtain the documents needed. In cases of hardship, financial assistance to pay for documents is available.
Impact to CMSP?	These rules do not apply to the CMSP (County Medical Services Program), only to Medi-Cal.
Who do you call for more information?	Call the Sonoma County Human Services Department Economic Assistance Service Center at 1-877-699-6868 .