

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
San Francisco Regional Office  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6706



**DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS**

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April 1, 2015

Mari Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs  
California Department of Health Care Services  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Ms. Cantwell:

Enclosed is an approved copy of California State Plan Amendment (SPA) 14-0031. SPA 14-0031 was submitted to my office on September 26, 2014 to update the annual pool amount available for the rate augmentation payment to be made to emergency air medical transportation (EMATA) providers in the 2014/15 rate year.

The effective date of this SPA is July 1, 2014. Enclosed are the following approved SPA pages that should be incorporated into your approved State Plan:

- Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B. pages 5-6.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Schenck by phone at (415) 744-3589 or by email at [tom.schenck@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:tom.schenck@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Hye Sun Lee  
Acting Associate Regional Administrator  
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

Enclosure

cc: Connie Florez, California Department of Health Care Services  
Pam Tello, California Department of Health Care Services  
Nathaniel Emery, California Department of Health Care Services

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:  
**14-031**

2. STATE  
California

**FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION**

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE  
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE  
July 1, 2014

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (*Check One*):

- NEW STATE PLAN
- AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN
- AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (*Separate Transmittal for each amendment*)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:  
**42 CFR 447, Subpart F**

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:  
a. FFY 2014 \$4,500,000  
b. FFY 2015 \$13,500,000 ~~\$4,500,000~~

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 5 and 6

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (*If Applicable*):

Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 5 and 6

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:

Supplemental payments for Air Medical Transportation Services

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*):

- GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
- COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
- NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:  
The Governor's Office does not  
wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

**Toby Douglas**

14. TITLE:

**Director**

15. DATE SUBMITTED

*9/26/14*

16. RETURN TO:

**Department of Health Care Services  
Attn: State Plan Coordinator  
1501 Capitol Avenue, Suite 71.326  
P.O. Box 997417  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7417**

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**

17. DATE RECEIVED: 9/26/2014

18. DATE APPROVED:  
**April 1, 2015**

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: 7/1/2014

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:  
*/s/*

21. TYPED NAME: Hye Sun Lee

22. TITLE: Acting Associate Regional Administrator

23. REMARKS: Pen and Ink change: Box 7 (TS)

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: CALIFORNIA

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**REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY AIR MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION  
SERVICES**

- (i) For the 2012/13 rate year, the annual amount available for the payment augmentation will be based on a total pool amount of \$11,220,000. This pool amount will be allocated to the eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology as described in B(2), that have submitted claims and received payment for the dates of service period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.
  - (ii) For the 2013/14 rate year, the annual amount available for the payment augmentation will be based on a total pool amount of \$9,000,000. This pool amount will be allocated to the eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology as described in B(2), that have submitted claims and received payment for the dates of service period July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.
3. The payment augmentation amount per transport will be calculated annually. For the 2012/13 and 2013/14 rate years, the payment augmentation amount per transport will be calculated pursuant to the method described in B(2) above. Effective July 1, 2014, the payment amount for each transport will be calculated pursuant to the method described in 4(b) below.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: CALIFORNIA

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4. Effective July 1, 2014, the payment augmentation amount for each emergency air medical transportation service will be calculated as described in section (b).
- (a) Base rates for emergency air medical transportation services are the State Agency's rates per procedure code as posted on the Medi-Cal Rates website: <http://files.medical.ca.gov/pubsdoco/rates/rateshome.asp>
- (b) Payment augmentation amounts for each emergency air medical transportation services will be calculated by multiplying the augmentation rate by the date of service projected utilization.
- i. The augmentation rate is the difference between the base rate and the maximum allowable amount per transport based on the provider's usual and customary rates charged to the general public for an emergency air medical transport.
- ii. For the 2014/15 rate year, the annual amount available for the payment augmentation will be based on a total pool amount of \$36,000,000. This pool amount will be distributed to eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology as described in b(i) and subject to the limitations of b(iii), for the dates of service period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.
- iii. The total computable augmentation amount shall not exceed the total allowable under b(ii).

D. Payment Augmentation and Effective Date

1. The payment augmentation amount will be an add-on to the existing rate for FFS emergency air medical transportation and will be posted on the State Agency's rates web site for each applicable date of service period.
2. The State Agency's initial rates for FFS emergency air transportation services were last updated on July 1, 2012 and are effective for dates of service on or after that date. The rates for FFS emergency air transportation services are posted on the Medi-Cal Rates web site at: <http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/rates/rateshome.asp>