

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
June 27, 2018

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT UPDATING THE SUPPLEMENTAL
PAYMENT METHODOLOGY FOR GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES PROGRAM**

This notice provides information of public interest about the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) proposed updates to the Supplemental Payments for Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Services Program. DHCS will be submitting State Plan Amendment (SPA #18-007) that modifies the supplemental payment methodology for GEMT, the proposed effective date for SPA 18-007 is July 1, 2018.

The GEMT program was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on September 4, 2013 and provides supplemental reimbursement for eligible GEMT providers that meet specified requirements and provide GEMT services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Supplemental reimbursements are available only for the uncompensated care costs incurred by eligible GEMT providers, which are the allowable costs that are in excess of the payments made to each eligible GEMT provider for GEMT services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Eligible GEMT providers must certify to the State the total expenditure incurred for providing the GEMT services that will be used to determine the supplemental payments. The supplemental payments are made annually on a lump-sum basis after the conclusion of each state fiscal year.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

DHCS proposes the following changes to the State Plan effective July 1, 2018:

- 1) Define shared direct GEMT costs that can be allocated to two or more departmental functions or cost objectives on the basis of shared benefits, and including shared direct costs in the Cost Determination Protocols.
- 2) Modify the final settlement timeline from three to four years.
- 3) Technical edits to cost report instructions.

The purpose of these changes is to update the definition of allowable costs, to revise the timeline for settlement and to make needed technical edits to cost report instructions.

SPA 18-007 is estimated to increase annual aggregate GEMT expenditure by \$50 million. The total aggregate annual GEMT expenditure, including the \$50 million increase, is estimated to be \$99 million in total funds.

The proposed SPA is subject to approval by CMS.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA #18-007 will be published at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending_2018.aspx

If you would like to view the SPA in person, once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of the proposed SPA #18-007 using the mailing address or email listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Safety Net Financing Division
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4504
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA #18-007 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to the SPA #18-007, may be requested in writing to the address or e-mail inbox identified above.