

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

### **NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST**

#### **PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO CONTINUE THE QUALITY & ACCOUNTABILITY SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT PROGRAM FOR THE 2018-19 RATE YEAR**

This notice provides information of public interest with respect to the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality and Accountability Supplemental Payment (QASP) Program. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposes to submit State Plan Amendment (SPA) 18-0034 to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to continue the supplemental payment program for the 2018-19 rate-year (August 1, 2018, through July 31, 2019) and to update the amount available for the supplemental payments.

Assembly Bill (AB) 119 (Chapter 17, Statutes of 2015) extends the AB 1629 (Chapter 875, Statutes of 2004) facility-specific rate-setting methodology, Quality Assurance Fee and QASP Program until July 31, 2020. AB 119 also requires DHCS, in coordination with the California Department of Public Health, to develop quality measures for the QASP Program.

Upon federal approval of the SPA, DHCS will provide a supplemental payment award to each eligible SNF based on the July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 performance period. Award payments will be made no later than April 30, 2019.

The 2019 pool of funds available for QASP payments is estimated to be up to \$88 million, of which a portion will be reserved for delayed award payments. Based on this estimate, there is no expected increase or decrease in annual aggregate expenditures.

#### **PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS**

A copy of SPA 18-0034 will be published at: [http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending\\_2018.aspx](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending_2018.aspx) once the SPA is available. 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 SPA from the mailing address or e-mail address below.

Any written comments regarding SPA 18-0034 may be sent to: Department of Health Care Services, Fee-For-Service Rates Development Division, 1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4600, Sacramento, California 95899-7417, or may be e-mailed to [Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov). Please indicate SPA 18-0034 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 18-0034 may be requested in writing to the mailing address or e-mail inbox identified above.

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