

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services  
233 North Michigan Ave., Suite 600  
Chicago, Illinois 60601



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**Financial Management Group**

November 24, 2020

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

RE: TN 20-0011

Dear Ms. Cooper:

We have reviewed the proposed California State Plan Amendment (SPA) to Attachment 4.19-B, CA-20-0011, which was submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on September 23, 2020. This SPA, effective July 1, 2020 authorizes augmentation payments to emergency air medical transportation services for state fiscal year 2020-21.

Based upon the information provided by the State, we have approved the amendment with an effective date of July 1, 2020. We are enclosing the approved CMS-179 and a copy of the new state plan pages.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Blake Holt at 415-744-3754 or [blake.holt@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:blake.holt@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Todd McMillion  
Director  
Division of Reimbursement Review

Enclosures

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 0 — 0 0 11

2. STATE

California

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

July 1, 2020

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

Title 42 CFR 447 Subpart F

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT

a. FFY 2020 \$ 1,950 (in thousands)

b. FFY 2021 \$ 5,850 (in thousands)

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 6-8

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 PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  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

Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 6-8

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Supplemental payments for Emergency Air Medical Transportation Services.

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

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED

COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED

NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

13. TYPED NAME

Jacey Cooper

14. TITLE

State Medicaid Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED

September 23, 2020

16. RETURN TO

Department of Health Care Services

Attn: Director's Office

P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000

Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**

17. DATE RECEIVED

9/23/2020

18. DATE APPROVED

11/24/2020

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

7/1/2020

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL

21. TYPED NAME

Todd McMillion

22. TITLE

Director, Division of Reimbursement Review

23. REMARKS

For Box 11 "Other, As Specified," Please note: The Governor's Office does not wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

11/20/20: State provides concurrence for a pen and ink change to Box 8 and Box 9 from "Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 6-8" to "Supplement 16 to Attachment 4.19-B pages 6-7"

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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: <https://mcweb.apps.prd.cammis.medi-cal.ca.gov/rates>
  - (b) Payment augmentation amounts for 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 state average of providers' usual and customary rates charged to the general public for an emergency air medical transport.
    - ii. For the 2018/19 rate year, the maximum annual amount available for the payment augmentation will be based on a total pool amount of \$13,000,000. Payments from this pool amount will be distributed to eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology described in b(i) and subject to the limitations of b(v), for the dates of service period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, until the annual pool amount is exhausted.
    - iii. For the 2019/20 rate year, the maximum annual amount available for the payment augmentation will be based on a total pool amount of \$10,000,000. Payments from this pool amount will be distributed to eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology described in b(i) and subject to the limitations of b(v), for the dates of service period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, until the annual pool amount is exhausted.
    - iv. For the 2020/21 rate year, the maximum annual amount available for the payment augmentations will be based on a total pool amount of \$13,000,000. Payments from this pool amount will be distributed to eligible air medical transportation providers, using the methodology described in b(i) and subject to the limitations of b(v), for the dates of service period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, until the annual pool amount is exhausted.

TN: 20-0011  
Supersedes  
TN: 19-0012

Approval Date: 11/24/20

Effective Date: July 1, 2020

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- v. The total computable augmentation amount for each rate year shall not exceed the applicable total allowable under b(ii), b(iii), and b(iv).

C. Payment Augmentation

1. The payment augmentation amount will be an add-on to the base rate for FFS emergency air medical transportation and will be posted on the Notes to Rates page of the Department's Medi-Cal web site for each applicable date of service period:  
<http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/rates/rateshome.asp>

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