This notice provides information of public interest regarding a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA 19-0038 will seek to extend the time-limited supplemental payment program for certain dental services in effect for Fiscal Year 2019-2021 for an additional 29 months, starting July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

On November 8, 2016, California voters approved the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act (commonly known as Proposition 56) to increase the excise tax rate on cigarettes and tobacco products. The Budget Act of 2019, once enacted, will continue to appropriate a specified portion of the revenue to DHCS for use as the nonfederal share of health care expenditures in accordance with the annual state budget process for the 2019-21 state fiscal year.

Submission of SPA 19-0038 is contingent upon allocation of Prop 56 funds in the enacted 19-20 Budget for this purpose. As currently proposed, this includes funds to be allocated for supplemental payments to categories for dental services includes restorative, endodontic, prosthodontic, oral and maxillofacial, adjunctive, and visits and diagnostic services. Continuing for FY 2019-20, the supplemental payment rates will vary between 20-60 percent of the Dental Schedule of Maximum Allowances (SMA), or a specific dollar increase as identified for FY 18-19 per the identified code published in the list posted on the DHCS Prop 56 webpage.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for specific applicable procedures within the aforementioned categories will increase by $978,594,773 in total funds, including $210,000,000 in Prop 56 funds.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is July 1, 2019, with a proposed end date of December 31, 2021. The proposed SPA is subject to approval by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA #19-0038 will be published at the following internet address:

Pending State Plan Amendment 2019
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 proposed SPA #19-0038 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

    Department of Health Care Services
    Medi-Cal Dental Services Division
    Attn: Alani Jackson
    P.O. Box 997413, MS 4900
    Sacramento, California 95899-7413

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA #19-0038 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA #19-0038 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.