

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: JUNE 28, 2019**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH A SUPPLEMENTAL
PAYMENT FOR NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION USING
PROPOSITION 56 TOBACCO TAX FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR THE 2019-20 STATE
FISCAL YEAR**

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA 19-0044 will seek to establish a time-limited supplemental payment program for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) services for the 2019-20 Fiscal year (FY), effective 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 Prop. 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 2019-20 FY.

Submission of SPA 19-0044 is contingent upon allocation of Prop. 56 funds in the enacted 2019-20 Budget for this purpose.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal FFS expenditures for NEMT services will increase by \$15.3 million in total funds, including \$5.6 million 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).

¹ [SPA 17-017, Attachment 3.1-D](#) defines Non-emergency medical transportation as transportation provided by ambulance, wheelchair van, or litter van that is covered under 42 CFR 440.170 when the recipient's medical and physical condition is such that transport by ordinary means (public or private conveyances) is medically contraindicated and the transportation is required for the purpose of obtaining necessary health care covered by the Medi-Cal program.

Public Review and Comments

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA # 19-0044 will be published at the following internet address:

[Pending State Plan Amendments 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 # 19-0044 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Fee-For-Service Rates Development Division
Attn: Connie Florez
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA # 19-0044 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA # 19-0044 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.