

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: AUGUST 16, 2019**

PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT FOR TRAUMA SCREENINGS USING PROPOSITION 56 TOBACCO TAX FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR STATE FISCAL YEARS 2019-2020 THROUGH 2021-2022

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 19-0048 will seek to authorize a time-limited supplemental payment program to support trauma screenings for all children and adults with full-scope Medi-Cal coverage, starting January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021. DHCS requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders concerning the proposed SPA 19-0048.

On November 8, 2016, California voters approved the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act (commonly known as Proposition 56 (Prop. 56)) to increase the excise tax rate on cigarettes and tobacco products. The Budget Act of 2019 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 through 2021-22 state fiscal years.

The 2019 budget includes funds to be allocated for provider training and technical assistance, as well as supplemental payments to support trauma screenings for all children and adults with full-scope Medi-Cal coverage. These screenings will be billed and reimbursed in addition to the amounts paid for the office visit that accompanies the screening in fee-for-service (FFS) scenarios or capitation paid by Medi-Cal managed care plans. Providers must complete DHCS' training for trauma screenings in order to be eligible for the supplemental payment. Medi-Cal providers will be able to bill for children under 21 years of age to receive periodic rescreening as determined appropriate and medically necessary, not more than once per year, per provider. No more than one screening per provider in the adult's lifetime. Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, and Indian Health Services providers that provide and bill for trauma screening will be reimbursed \$29.00, in addition to their prospective payment system reimbursement and all-inclusive rate.

Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes	Rates
G9919 – positive screening with patient score of 4 or greater	\$29
G9920 – negative screening with patient score of 0-3	\$29

DHCS estimates the overall budgetary impact of the proposed supplementary payments to result in an aggregate expenditure increase of approximately \$45 million in total funds for fiscal year 2019-20 for supplemental payments, plus approximately \$60 million for fiscal years 2019-20 through 2021-22 for provider training and technical assistance (50 percent Prop. 56 funds/50 percent federal funds).

The effective date of the proposed SPA is January 1, 2020, 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 19-0048 will be published at the following internet address:

[Pending State Plan Amendment 2019](#)

If you would like to view the SPA, you may request a copy of proposed SPA 19-0048 or a copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 19-0048 by writing to the mailing or email addresses listed below. Please indicate SPA 19-0048 in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Benefits Division
Attn: Jim Elliott
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4601
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov . Please indicate SPA 19-0048 in the subject line or message.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of the SPA to CMS, comments must be received no later than September 16, 2019. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after September 16, 2019, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of SPA 19-0048 to CMS.