



NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: AUGUST 12, 2025

ADDENDUM TO PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT (SPA) 25-0003 TO CONTINUE AND INCREASE SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (GEMT)

This is an addendum to the SPA 25-0003 Public Notice, published June 26, 2025. May it be known that the following changes will be included in SPA 25-0003:

SPA 25-0003 will be bifurcated into 25-0003-A and 25-0003-B.

- 25-0003-A is to renew the GEMT Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) Program and the reimbursement add-on for Medi-Cal ground emergency medical transports. DHCS is proposing to update the scope of SPA 25-0003-A to include dates of service from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. DHCS estimates that the aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures from SPA 25-0003-A will increase by \$20 million in total funds for one year (July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026). The proposed State Plan pages for SPA 25-0003-A are attached below.
- SPA 25-0003-B is to provide supplemental payment add-ons to enhance Medi-Cal payments for qualifying private GEMT services for dates of service from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

The effective dates of the proposed SPAs 25-0003-A and 25-0003-B remain July 1, 2025. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).



STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
STATE: California

**ONE-YEAR REIMBURSEMENT RATE ADD-ON FOR
GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT (GEMT) SERVICES UNDER
THE GEMT QUALITY ASSURANCE FEE PROGRAM**

Introduction

This Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Quality Assurance Fee (GEMT QAF) program provides increased reimbursement to eligible GEMT providers by application of an add-on to the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) fee schedule base rates for emergency medical transportation services. The reimbursement rate add-on will apply to the emergency medical transport Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes, as described below, effective for transports provided July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The base rates for emergency medical transportation services will remain unchanged through this amendment.

“Emergency medical transport” means the act of transporting an individual from any point of origin to the nearest medical facility capable of meeting the emergency medical needs of the patient by an ambulance licensed, operated, and equipped in accordance with applicable state or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations, excluding transportation by an air ambulance provider, that are billed with HCPCS Codes A0429 BLS Emergency, A0427 ALS Emergency, and A0433 ALS2, A0434 Specialty Care Transport, and A0225 Neonatal Emergency Transport. An “emergency medical transport” does not occur when, following evaluation of a patient, a transport is not provided.

Public providers of “emergency medical transport” or GEMT services will not be eligible to receive the add-on described here pursuant to the GEMT QAF program during periods when the Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Intergovernmental Transfer (PP-GEMT IGT) program is implemented, as described on page 3 of this Supplement.

TN No. 25-0003A
Supersedes
TN No. 24-0025

Approval Date: ___ Effective Date: July 1, 2025

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
STATE: California

Methodology

For SFY 2025-26, the reimbursement rate add-on is fixed. The resulting payment amounts are equal to the sum of the FFS fee schedule base rate for the SFY 2025-26 and the add-on amount for the HCPCS Code. The resulting total payment amount for HCPCS Codes A0429, A0427, A0433, and A0434 is \$339.00, and for HCPCS Code A0225 is \$400.72. The add-on is paid for each eligible HCPCS Code on a per-claim basis.

HCPCS Code	Description	Current Fee Schedule Rate*	QAF Add-On Amount	Resulting Total Payment
A0429	Basic Life Support, Emergency	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0427	Advanced Life Support, Level 1, Emergency	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0433	Advanced Life Support, Level 2	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0434	Specialty Care Transport	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0225	Neonatal Emergency Transport	\$179.92	\$220.80	\$400.72

*These are the base rates associated with these codes but are subject to further adjustments pursuant to the State Plan.