

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE REIMBURSEMENT
RATES FOR THE PRENATAL SCREENING PROGRAM**

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Proposed SPA 22-0063 is seeking federal authority to increase the Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) reimbursement rate for the Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program's Maternal Serum Alpha-Fetoprotein (MSAFP) screening billed with CPT code 82105, effective September 19, 2022.

In California, the PNS Program is administered by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 124977, CDPH periodically adjusts the PNS Program fee to fully support the Genetic Disease Screening Program (GDSP). CDPH plans to split GDSP's current conventional biochemical screening for chromosome abnormalities between a cfDNA Screening Program that screens for chromosomal abnormalities (CPT code 81420) and a MSAFP Screening Program that screens for neural tube defects (CPT code 82105). CDPH charges a fee for performing these screening tests. This SPA seeks to implement a corresponding Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) rate increase from \$12.03 to \$85.00 for CPT code 82105 to fully reimburse providers for the PNS MSAFP participation fee that CDPH will charge, effective September 19, 2022.

DHCS estimates the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for the PNS Program will increase by approximately \$9.9 million in total funds, based on data available at this time.

The effective date of proposed SPA 22-0063 is September 19, 2022. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of proposed SPA 22-0063 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/PendingStatePlanAmendments.aspx>.

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 22-0063 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: Provider Rates Section
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA 22-0063 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA 22-0063 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.