

Notice of MaineCare Reimbursement Methodology Change

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services

SERVICES INCLUDED: Chapter 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Section 45, Chapter III, Hospital Services

NATURE OF PROPOSED CHANGES: Beginning October 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide reimbursement to hospitals other than acute care critical access hospitals for each day after the 10th day that a MaineCare-eligible individual is in the care of a hospital while awaiting placement in a nursing facility. The Department shall reimburse hospitals at the statewide average rate per MaineCare member day for nursing facility services. The Department shall compute the statewide average rate per MaineCare member day based on the simple average of the nursing facility rate per MaineCare member day for the applicable state fiscal year, or years prorated for the hospital's fiscal year. Reimbursement for days awaiting placement pursuant to this section is limited to a maximum of \$500,000 of combined State General Fund funds and federal funds for each year for a period of five years. The Department will reimburse quarterly by order of claim date. In the event the cap is expected to be exceeded in any quarter, reimbursement for claims in that quarter will be paid out proportionately, and a notification of total funds expended for that year will be sent out to providers. This provision is repealed December 31, 2023.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES: All changes are pursuant to P. L. 2017, ch. 454, *An Act to Require Reimbursement to Hospitals for Patients Awaiting Placement in Nursing Facilities*.

ESTIMATE OF ANY EXPECTED INCREASE OR DECREASE IN ANNUAL AGGREGATE EXPENDITURES: The Department anticipates this will cost approximately \$99,244 in SFY 2020, which includes \$35,390 in state dollars and \$63,854 in federal dollars and approximately \$99,244 in SFY 2021, which includes \$35,390 in state dollars and \$63,854 in federal dollars.

ACCESS TO PROPOSED CHANGES AND COMMENTS TO PROPOSED CHANGES: The public may review the proposed methodology changes and written comments at any Maine DHHS office in every Maine county. To find out where the Maine DHHS offices are located, call 1-800-452-1926. The Department will hold a hearing for the proposed rulemaking and will be publishing a notice which includes information on the hearing date and location.

CONTACT INFORMATION

FOR RECEIPT OF COMMENTS:

Kristin Merrill

Kristin.Merrill@maine.gov

AGENCY NAME:

Office of MaineCare Services

ADDRESS:

109 Capitol Street, 11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

TELEPHONE:

(207) 624-4006 FAX: (207) 287-1864

TTY: 711 Maine Relay (Deaf or Hard of Hearing)

See <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/rules/index.shtml> for rules and related rulemaking documents.