

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, Chapters II & III, Hospital Services

NATURE OF PROPOSED CHANGES: Beginning January 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide reimbursement to acute care non-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. This section will be repealed on December 31, 2023.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 that this rulemaking will cost approximately \$49,622 in FY 2019, which includes \$17,690 in state dollars and \$31,932 in federal dollars. The rulemaking will cost approximately \$99,244 in SFY 2020, 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:

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