

PUBLIC NOTICE

(REVISED)

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services. Accordingly, the Department is publishing this **revised public notice** to include additional proposed changes to its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services related to Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allocations and Directed Payment Programs (DPP).¹ Specifically, DCH is proposing to increase the allocation for hospitals receiving direct payments from the Directed Payment Program (DPP) by the amount of any intergovernmental transfers or certified public expenditures on behalf of the hospital.

Changes to Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Allocation Methodology

Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval, the Department of Community Health (DCH) proposes to amend its State Plan to revise the definition of individuals eligible for inclusion in the DSH calculation for uncompensated care (UCC) as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. Additionally, the Department proposes to amend its State Plan to reflect that for hospitals receiving Directed Payment Program (DPP) rate adjustments, the allocation basis will be increased by the amount of any intergovernmental transfer or certified public expenditure on behalf of the hospital, effective for DSH payment adjustments made on or after December 1, 2021. The fiscal impact is as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
FY2021	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY2022	\$0	\$0	\$0

Background:

Revised Definition Based Upon the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021:

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 limits the individuals eligible for inclusion in the DSH calculation for uncompensated care to the following: (1) Those who are eligible for medical assistance under the State Plan or under a waiver of such plan for whom the State Plan or waiver is the primary payor for such services, and (2) those who have no health insurance or other source of third-party coverage. This change eliminates the Medicare/Medicaid crossover dual eligible population as well as the Medicaid secondary payor population under the UCC calculation.

Directed Payment Programs and the Impact to DSH Program Calculations:

On April 8, 2021, DCH presented a request to its board to implement a new Directed Payment Program for its Care Management Organizations (CMO) and eligible participating hospitals. A

¹¹ On September 9, 2021, DCH issued a public notice addressing changes to the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allocation methodology. The September 9, 2021, public notice addressed the revised definition of individuals eligible for inclusion in the DSH calculation for uncompensated care (UCC) as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. DCH is **revising** the September 9, 2021 public notice to include a proposal to revise the methodology for hospitals receiving Directed Payment Program rate adjustments.

copy of the April 8, 2021 agenda and public notice may be accessed by selecting the following link: <https://dch.georgia.gov/events/2021-04-08/dch-board-meeting>. The DCH Board approved the request which allowed DCH to move forward with issuing the public notice. During the public comment period DCH was asked to consider the impact of the Directed Payment Programs on the DSH program calculations. Accordingly, DCH is proposing to amend its State Plan to include the following methodology: For hospitals receiving Directed Payment Program (DPP) rate adjustments, the allocation basis will be increased by the amount of any intergovernmental transfer or certified public expenditure on behalf of the hospital, effective for DSH payment adjustments made on or after December 1, 2021.

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **November 10, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82907021145?pwd=Rlo1eXltMSsyT1lsaWdvU0FraWU4dz09>

Meeting ID: 829 0702 1145

Passcode: Open

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82907021145# US (Washington DC)

+13092053325,,82907021145# US

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

Meeting ID: 829 0702 1145

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **December 5, 2022** to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia

30301-1966. You may also email comments to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 4th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2022
Caylee Noggle, Commissioner