

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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.

### GROUND AMBULANCE UPPER PAYMENT LIMIT (UPL)

Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) approval and effective for services provided on or after August 13, 2021, the Department proposes to modify the average commercial rate calculation and frequency of data collection used in the calculation of ambulance supplemental payment.

This change is estimated to increase supplemental payments by:

	State Cost (IGT)	Federal Cost	Total Cost
FY 2022	\$5,443	\$14,890	\$20,333

Effective July 1, 2020 the Department implemented a supplemental payment program for hospital based or government affiliated Fee-for-Service ground ambulance providers. The State Plan Amendment required ambulance providers to submit three to five commercial payer rates for the calculation of the average commercial rate. Several rural ambulance providers could not provide the three commercial rates for the required Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for the calculation. These rural ambulance providers did not receive a supplemental payment for those HCPCS codes. Effective August 13, 2021, the State will modify the state plan to apply a median rates per HCPCS code in lieu of commercial rates for these providers.

Secondly, to improve efficiencies for both the ambulance providers and State, the State will modify the state plan language to allow ambulance providers to submit commercial rates every two years instead of twice per year.

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 **August 17, 2021 at 11a.m., via WebEx 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.

Event number: 182 817 8133

Event password: OPEN (6736 from phones)

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To join the online event

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1. Copy and paste the following link to a browser:

<https://dchevents.webex.com/dchevents/j.php?MTID=mfedce44ca8070abe5d2b8b4c6ad9e5772>

2. Click "Join Now".

Join the audio conference only:

1-650-479-3207 Call-in toll number (US/Canada). Access code: 182 817 8133.

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **August 24, 2021**, 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](mailto: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](mailto:danwilliams@dch.ga.gov). Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **September 9, 2021 Board** meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2021**  
**Caylee Noggle, Commissioner**