

## 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.

### INCREASE THE EXISTING PAYMENT FOR THE RURAL HOSPITAL NEWBORN DELIVERY PROGRAM STATE PLAN AMENDMENT (SPA)

Pursuant to House Bill 68 passed in the 2025 legislative session and pending approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department of Community Health seeks to increase the rate of the add-on payment for the Rural Hospital Newborn Delivery Program.

Currently under the Medicaid State Plan, Georgia provides an enhanced payment for deliveries in rural settings under the Rural Hospital Newborn Delivery Program. The enhanced payment provides \$1,000 per newborn delivery for hospitals in rural counties having populations less than 35,000. Effective July 1, 2025, the Department seeks CMS approval to increase the add-on payment from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per newborn delivery for hospitals in rural counties having populations less than 35,000.

The cost impact is as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
SFY 2026	\$1,747,837	\$3,440,163	\$5,188,000

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 **May 27, 2025, at 12:00 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 before the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84852833877?pwd=2FHZ2MrduaN9axnaK9O1nYEW2xTdYT.1>

Meeting ID: 848 5283 3877

Passcode: 176330

---

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84852833877#,,,176330# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,84852833877#,,,176330# US (New York)

---

Dial by your location

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

• +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 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
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 848 5283 3877

Passcode: 176330

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **June 3, 2025**, to Danisha Williams c/o 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 [openrecordsrequest@dch.ga.gov](mailto:openrecordsrequest@dch.ga.gov). *Please note that any comments submitted are subject to open records.*

If the proposed changes are presented to the Board for final action, relevant comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board. The Board expects to vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held on **June 12, 2025**, at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health unless withdrawn or withheld by the Department for further review.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May 2025**  
**Russel Carlson, Commissioner**