

## 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.

### LONG TERM ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTIONAL REHABILITATION FACILITY PER DIEM RATES

Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval and effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2019, the Department is proposing to convert the reimbursement methodology for Long Term Acute Care Hospitals (LTACHs) and Institutional Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs) from a per case payment under the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) to a per diem payment utilizing a facility-specific per diem rate.

Under the proposed per diem payment methodology LTACHs and IRFs will be placed into one of two peer groups based on ownership status: (1) State-Owned Peer Group and (2) Non-State-Owned Peer Group.

Currently enrolled LTACHs and IRFs in the Non-State Owned Peer Group will have a facility-specific per diem rate set at 80.02% of the facility's estimated calendar year (CY) 2016 Medicaid claims costs. LTACHs and IRFs in the State-Owned Peer Group will have a facility-specific per diem rate set at 100% of the facility's estimated CY 2016 Medicaid claims costs.

Newly enrolled LTACHs and IRFs that do not have CY 2016 Medicaid claims will receive payment under an average per diem rate. The per diem rate for newly enrolled LTACHs in the Non-State Owned Peer Group will be set at 80.02% of average estimated LTACH CY 2016 Medicaid claims costs. The per diem rate for newly enrolled LTACHs in the State-Owned Peer Group will be set at 100% of average estimated LTACH CY 2016 Medicaid claims costs.

The per diem rate for newly enrolled IRFs in the Non-State-Owned Peer Group will be set at 80.02% of average estimated IRF CY 2016 Medicaid claims costs. The per diem rate for newly enrolled IRFs in the State-Owned Peer Group will be set at 100% of average estimated IRF CY 2016 Medicaid claims costs.

This change is estimated to impact expenditures in state fiscal year (SFY) 2019 as follows:

<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>State Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Federal Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Total Funds</u></b>
Aged, Blind, and Disabled	\$2,174,708	\$4,541,499	\$6,716,207
Low-Income Medicaid	\$329,840	\$688,814	\$1,018,654
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,504,548</b>	<b>\$5,230,313</b>	<b>\$7,734,861</b>

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 13, 2018, 11:30 a.m.**, at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **November 20, 2018**, 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 **December 13, 2018** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at Mercer University, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 8<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018**  
**Frank W. Berry, Commissioner**