

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.

NEWBORN SCREENING RATE INCREASE

Pursuant to House Bill 68 (HB68) enacted during the 2025 legislative session and pending approval by this Board and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department of Community Health (DCH) proposes to increase the reimbursement rate for the Department of Public Health (DPH) for newborn screening.

This rate increase reflects the inclusion of an additional disorder approved by the Georgia Newborn Screening (NBS) Advisory Committee, effective August 1, 2025.

The cost impact is as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
SFY 2026	\$138,813	\$273,218	\$412,031

DPH has historically administered the state's NBS program and will continue to maintain oversight of the screenings. Starting August 1, 2025, DPH will begin screening for Krabbe disease, an addition to the newborn screening program. Our current newborn screening (NBS) fee is \$80.40 and the addition of Krabbe to the NBS panel will result in an increase of \$7.93. The FY 2026 NBS fee will be \$88.33.

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 18, 2025, at 11:30 a.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/81169297564?pwd=F6O4g3bqPhLokw1riWmVRkUPqRkavh.1>

Meeting ID: 811 6929 7564

Passcode: 354732

One tap mobile

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- +1 305 224 1968 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)
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- +1 507 473 4847 US
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- +1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 811 6929 7564

Passcode: 354732

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **August 25, 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 or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to 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 **September 11, 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 14th DAY OF AUGUST 2025

Dean Burke, MD, Commissioner