

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.

NURSING HOME SERVICES RATE INCREASE

Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval and effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2019 and subject to payment at fee for service rates, the Department proposes to modify and increase the payment for nursing facility services as follows:

- Increase the growth allowance used in the computation of nursing facility per diem rates to 13.37% as an inflationary adjustment and to recognize additional costs for enhanced background checks.
- Increase the maximum reimbursement incentive for nursing facilities with 45% or more Medicaid residents during a quarter with Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) scores of less than or equal to 5 from 4.5% to 5.5%.
- Establish a minimum nursing facility reimbursement per diem rate of \$147.00.

This change is estimated to increase nursing facility expenditures for SFY 2020 as follows:

<u>Program</u>	<u>State Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
Aged, Blind, and Disabled	\$16,241,785	\$33,549,095	\$49,790,880

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 **June 18, 2019, 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 **June 25, 2019**, 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. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **July 11, 2019** 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 (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 13th DAY OF JUNE, 2019

Frank W. Berry, Commissioner