

PROPOSED CHANGES IN METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT RATES STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is proposing a change in the methods and standards by which the Department will reimburse providers. The proposed change is effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2021 and is addressed below.

Pursuant to [PA 102-0043](#), the Department is proposing to provide for the legally authorized services of persons licensed under the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act as licensed clinical professional counselors (LCPC) and for the legally authorized services of persons licensed under the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act as licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT). These services include mental health services such as psychiatric diagnostic evaluations, psychotherapy, and counseling.

The proposed reimbursement rate for LCPC and LMFT services will be at 75% of the physician rate. The reimbursement changes will apply to services personally rendered by an LCPC or LMFT. These proposed changes will increase expenditures by approximately \$6.4 million to \$7.6 million annually based on current utilization patterns.

The proposed change is subject to approval by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and may be modified or revised during the approval process.

Any interested party may submit questions or comments concerning these proposed changes in reimbursement methods and standards. All questions or comments must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of the publication date of this notice and addressed to:

Bureau of Program and Policy Coordination
Division of Medical Programs
Healthcare and Family Services
201 South Grand Avenue East
Springfield, IL 62763-0001
E-mail address: HFS.bpra@illinois.gov

This notice may be viewed at the DHS local offices (except in Cook County). In Cook County, the notice and clarification may be reviewed at the Office of the Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, 401 South Clinton Street, 1st Floor, Chicago, Illinois. Comments received regarding this notice shall be published on the HFS web site at <http://www.illinois.gov/hfs/info/legal/PublicNotices/Pages/>.

This notice is being provided in accordance with federal requirements found at 42 *CFR* 447.205.