

**PROPOSED CHANGES IN METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT RATES**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES**

Date: May 14, 2026

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 July 1, 2026.

Pursuant to [PA 103-0593](#), the Department is proposing to expand coverage of the services a pharmacist may deliver to include testing, screening, and treatment for COVID-19, the flu, strep, RSV, head lice (adult), and health conditions identified by a statewide public health emergency.

This proposed change is estimated to be budget neutral. 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. Comments received regarding this notice shall be published on the HFS web site at <https://hfs.illinois.gov/info/legal/publicnotices.html>. It is recommended to include the name of the public notice in the subject line. 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.BPPC@illinois.gov

The notice may be viewed at the DHS local offices (except in Cook County). In Cook County, the notice may be reviewed at the Office of the Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, 401 South Clinton Street, 1st Floor, Chicago, Illinois.

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