

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

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

Date: August 20, 2026

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is proposing changes in the methods and standards for setting payment rates for providers. The proposed changes are effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2027.

Pursuant to [Public Act 104-0466](#), HFS is proposing to extend the tiered safety-net add on payment that is due to expire on December 31, 2026 to instead expire on December 31, 2028. HFS is also proposing to adjust the low volume add-on payment for dates of service January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2028.

These updates will result in the continuation of safety net add-ons that have an estimated annual Medicaid liability of up to \$80 million for both the fee-for-service and managed care models in Illinois. These proposed changes are 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.