

**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/Department) is proposing a change in the methods and standards by which the Department will reimburse Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The proposed change is effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2024.

Pursuant to [PA 103-0102](#), the Department is proposing to increase the Prospective Payment System (PPS) rates for FQHCs by 11%. The Department is also proposing to update the definition of behavioral health encounters to allow for billing of services rendered by a licensed clinical psychologist (LCP), a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), a licensed clinical professional counselor (LCPC), a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), or by a sub-clinical behavioral health professional operating under the direct supervision of a psychiatrist, nurse practitioner with a psychiatric specialty, LCP, LCSW, LCPC, or LMFT. A sub-clinical behavioral health professional is defined as an individual possessing a master's or doctoral degree in counseling and guidance, rehabilitation counseling, social work, psychology, pastoral counseling, marriage and family therapy, or related field.

The Department estimates this change will increase expenditures by \$60 million annually for services provided through fee-for-service or through managed care organizations. 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.BPPC@illinois.gov](mailto: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. 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.