

**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 providers. The proposed change is effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2024.

Pursuant to [PA 102-0004](#), the Department is proposing to provide perinatal doula services delivered by certified doulas. Doulas support pregnant customers throughout the pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum experience, with the goal of improving outcomes for birthing people and infants. Coverage for doula services will include up to 16 prenatal visits, up to 16 postpartum visits, and continuous support provided during labor and delivery.

The Department estimates this change will increase expenditures by \$15 million 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

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.