

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

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

Date: October 17, 2024

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is proposing changes in the methods and standards of payment to providers. The proposed changes become effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2025.

Pursuant to [Public Act 103-0588](#), the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services are proposing to implement rate increases for facilities licensed by the Department of Public Health under the ID/DD Community Care Act, as well as facilities licensed under the MC/DD Act, for services delivered on or after January 1, 2025. Rate increases shall include:

- A \$1.00 per hour wage increase for all direct support personnel and all other frontline personnel who are not subject to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' average wage increases, who work in residential and community day services settings, with at least \$0.75 of those funds to be provided as a direct increase to all aide base wages, with the remaining \$0.25 to be used flexibly for base wage increases to the rate methodology for aides.
- An increase sufficient to provide wages for all residential non-executive direct care staff, excluding aides, at the federal Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' average wage.

In addition, regional wage adjuster for facilities located outside of the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will shall be no lower than 1.00, and any regional wage adjuster for facilities located within the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will shall be no lower than 1.15.

These proposed changes will increase expenditures by approximately \$22.1 million annually. 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