



NOTICES OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Notices of Public Information contain corrections that agencies wish to make to their notices of rulemaking; miscellaneous rulemaking information that does not fit into any other category of notice; and other types of information required by statute to be published in the Register.

Because of the variety of Notices of Public Information, the Office of the Secretary of State has not established a specific publishing format for these notices. We do however require agencies to use a numbered list of questions and answers and follow our filing requirements by presenting receipts with electronic and paper copies.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

[M15-155]

1. Name of the Agency: Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS)

2. The topic of the public information matter: Soliciting public input on proposed rules for the following topics. Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program, Appeals, Fingerprinting, Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, Department Adoption Services and Adoption Entity Services.

3. The Public Information relating to the topic: The Department of Child Safety was granted rulemaking authority under A.R.S. § 8-453(A)(5), and an 18-month exemption from the rulemaking requirements of Title 41, Chapter 6 under Arizona Laws 2014, Second Special Session, Chapter 1, Section 158 (Senate Bill 1001).

The Department is in the process of moving its rules from Title 6, Chapter 5, Social Services, to its own title – Title 21, Child Safety, in the Arizona Administrative Code.

The law requires the Department to post all drafts of its administrative rules to the Department website for a minimum of 30 days, for an opportunity for the public to provide written comments. In addition, at least 2 public hearings must be held prior to the filing of the final rules.

4. The name and address of agency personnel to whom questions and comments may be addressed: Complete information and an opportunity to provide written comments online regarding the proposed rules can be found at: https://dcs.az.gov/about/dcs-rules-rulemaking. Close of on-line comment period is Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. In addition, comments on the proposed rules can be submitted by mail to: Carrie Senseman, Lead Rules Analyst, Department of Child Safety, P.O. Box 6030, Site Code C010-23, Phoenix, Arizona 85005-6030. Comments must be postmarked by Tuesday, July 22, 2015.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM (AHCCCS)

[M15-153]

1. Name of the Agency: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

2. The topic of the public information notice: AHCCCS Fee-For-Service (FFS) rates for various fee schedules to be effective for dates of service beginning October 1, 2015 AND for inpatient hospital rates to address costs associated with high acuity pediatric cases to be effective for dates of service beginning January 1, 2016.

3. The public information relating to the topic: This Notice describes proposed changes to the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Fee-For-Service (FFS) rates to be effective October 1, 2015 with the exception of changes to address high acuity pediatric cases which will be effective with dates of service January 1, 2016. The total change in FFS payments as a result



of the proposed changes is an estimated increase of \$6,348,730 for the time period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.

1. For dates of service on and after October 1, 2015:

The following fee schedules will be updated as described below:

- Select Behavioral Health Fee Schedule inpatient rates will be updated to reflect an aggregate 19.6% increase to align with market rates and address access to care.
- Home and Community-Based Services Fee Schedule rates will be increased by 1.5% across-the-board to address federally-mandated cost increases and improvements in the Arizona economy leading to challenges in hiring and retaining direct care staff.
- Hospice per diem rates will be updated to match the Medicaid Hospice Payment Rates published by Medicare.
- Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals and Rehabilitation Hospitals per diem rates will be updated for a 1.1% aggregate fiscal impact to address the relative patient acuity among the hospitals.
- Inpatient Hospital APR-DRG rates will be updated to continue the phase-in transition from the tiered per diem methodology which is budget neutral in aggregate across all hospitals.
- Physician Drug Schedule rates will be updated for a 2.3% aggregate impact to address changes in drug prices.

The following fee schedules will be updated for a 0.0% aggregate fiscal impact, reflecting changes to the Medicare fee schedules on which they are based:

- Ambulatory Surgical Center Fee Schedule rates
- Outpatient Hospital Fee Schedule rates
- Physician Fee Schedule rates
- Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule rates
- DMEPOS (DME, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies) Fee Schedule rates

The following fee schedule will be updated for a 0.0% aggregate fiscal impact, indexing the rates to the *ADA 2013 Survey of Dental Fees*:

- Dental Fee Schedule rates

The following fee schedules will remain unchanged:

- Behavioral Health Fee Schedule outpatient rates
- Freestanding Dialysis Facility composite rates
- Nursing Facility per diem rates
- Transportation rates other than those that are based on the Arizona Ground Ambulance Service Rate Schedule published by ADHS, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. (For transportation rates set by ADHS, refer to the [Notice of Public Information-AHCCCS Emergency Ground Ambulance Rates Proposed for Dates of Service On and After October 1, 2015](#))

- For dates of service on and after January 1, 2016:
- Inpatient Hospital APR-DRG rates will be updated to address costs associated with high-acuity pediatric cases, resulting in a 28% increase to the rates for those specific cases.

• This Notice also describes proposed changes to the AHCCCS FFS nursing facility per diem rates on and after October 1, 2015: No automatic inflation will be applied on or after October 1, 2015.

• The changes proposed for the rates in this Notice are proposed to assure that payments are consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care and are sufficient to enlist enough providers so that care and services are available at least to the extent that such care and services are available to the general population in the geographic area.

• Written comments may be sent to the following address and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 20, 2015:

Michael Veit, Contracts and Purchasing Administrator



Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
701 E. Jefferson St. Phoenix, Arizona 85034

- More information regarding these changes to reimbursement can be obtained from the AHCCCS website at: <http://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCSProviderRateAnalysis.aspx>. Many public libraries offer access to the internet. In addition, the information can be obtained at the Offices of the AHCCCS Administration, 701 E. Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85034.
- The Notice of Public Information regarding these proposed changes to rates is expected to be published in the Arizona Administrative Register on or before July 10, 2015.