
NOTICES OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

This section of the *Arizona Administrative Register* contains Notices of Proposed Rulemakings.

A proposed rulemaking is filed by an agency upon completion and submittal of a Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening. Often these two documents are filed at the same time and published in the same *Register* issue.

When an agency files a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), the notice is published in the *Register* within three weeks of filing. See the publication schedule in the back of each issue of the *Register* for more information.

Under the APA, an agency must allow at least 30 days to elapse after the publication of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the *Register* before beginning any proceedings for making, amending, or repealing any rule. (A.R.S. §§ 41-1013 and 41-1022)

The Office of the Secretary of State is the filing office and publisher of these rules. Questions about the interpretation of the proposed rules should be addressed to the agency the promulgated the rules. Refer to item #4 below to contact the person charged with the rulemaking and item #10 for the close of record and information related to public hearings and oral comments.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

TITLE 9. HEALTH SERVICES

CHAPTER 22. ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM (AHCCCS) ADMINISTRATION

[R15-105]

PREAMBLE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <u>Article, Part, or Section Affected (as applicable)</u>
R9-22-712.05 | <u>Rulemaking Action</u>
Amend |
|---|--|
- 2. Citations to the agency's statutory rulemaking authority to include the authorizing statute (general) and the implementing statute (specific):**
Authorizing statute: A.R.S. § 36-2903.01
Implementing statute: A.R.S. § 36-2903.01
- 3. Citations to all related notices published in the Register as specified in R1-1-409(A) that pertain to the record of the proposed rule:**
Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening: 21 A.A.R. 1835, September 11, 2015 (*in this issue*)
- 4. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the rulemaking:**
Name: Mariaelena Ugarte
Address: AHCCCS
Office of Administrative Legal Services
701 E. Jefferson, Mail Drop 6200
Phoenix, AZ 85034
Telephone: (602) 417-4693
Fax: (602) 253-9115
E-mail: AHCCCSRules@azahcccs.gov
Web site: www.azahcccs.gov
- 5. An agency's justification and reason why a rule should be made, amended, repealed or renumbered, to include an explanation about the rulemaking:**
A.R.S. § 36-2903.01 requires the Administration to describe in rule how GME appropriated funds for distribution to hospitals for direct costs of the GME programs established or expanded on or after July 1, 2006. In addition the rule describes how indirect GME costs for programs located in a county with a population of less than 500,000 are calculated and distributed and how funds and certified public expenditures apply to other indirect program costs. The intention of this rulemaking is to modify the method of allocating funds for indirect GME costs to permit payments that will cover a greater portion of the costs reported by the GME programs. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(G)(9), certain public entities are permitted to transfer funds to the AHCCCS Administration to support these payments. In addition, AHCCCS would like to make additional clarifying changes to the rule.



6. A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and proposes either to rely on or not to rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:

A study was not referenced or relied upon when revising these regulations.

7. A showing of good cause why the rulemaking is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rulemaking will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

Not applicable

8. The preliminary summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact:

The Administration anticipates a moderate economic impact on the implementing agency, small businesses and consumers. The proposed rulemaking intends to calculate the maximum payment for the indirect cost of graduate medical education. The rulemaking will benefit hospitals operating GME programs because the proposed rule amendment, which will not require additional State funding, will expand payments in support of graduate medical education. Payments to Arizona training hospitals are expected to increase or enhance payments by approximately \$81,000,000 annually without use of additional State funds.

Minimal impact = \$0 - \$1M

Moderate impact = \$1M - \$100M

Maximum impact = \$100M on up

9. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the economic, small business and consumer impact statement:

Name: Mariaelena Ugarte
 Address: AHCCCS
 Office of Administrative Legal Services
 701 E. Jefferson, Mail Drop 6200
 Phoenix, AZ 85034
 Telephone: (602) 417-4693
 Fax: (602) 253-9115
 E-mail: AHCCCSRules@azahcccs.gov
 Web site: www.azahcccs.gov

10. The time, place, and nature of the proceedings to make, amend, repeal, or renumber the rule, or if no proceeding is scheduled, where, when, and how persons may request an oral proceeding on the proposed rule:

Proposed rule language will be available on the AHCCCS website www.azahcccs.gov the week of August 24, 2015. Please send written or email comments to the above address by the close of the comment period, 5:00 p.m., October 13, 2015.

Date: October 13, 2015
 Time: Noon
 Location: AHCCCS
 701 E. Jefferson
 Phoenix, AZ 85034
 Nature: Public Hearing

Date: October 13, 2015
 Time: Noon
 Location: ALTCS: Arizona Long-Term Care System
 1010 N. Finance Center Dr., Suite 201
 Tucson, AZ 85710
 Nature: Public Hearing

Date: October 13, 2015
 Time: Noon
 Location: 2717 N. 4th St., Suite 130
 Flagstaff, AZ 86004
 Nature: Public Hearing

11. All agencies shall list other matters prescribed by statute applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules. Additionally, an agency subject to Council review under A.R.S. §§ 41-1052 and 41-1055 shall respond to the following questions:

No other matters have been prescribed.



- a. **Whether the rule requires a permit, whether a general permit is used and if not, the reasons why a general permit is not used:**
Not applicable
 - b. **Whether a federal law is applicable to the subject of the rule, whether the rule is more stringent than federal law and if so, citation to the statutory authority to exceed the requirements of federal law:**
Not applicable
 - c. **Whether a person submitted an analysis to the agency that compares the rule’s impact of the competitiveness of business in this state to the impact on business in other states:**
No analysis was submitted.
- 12. A list of any incorporated by reference material as specified in A.R.S. § 41-1028 and its location in the rules:**
None
- 13. The full text of the rules follows:**

TITLE 9. HEALTH SERVICES

CHAPTER 22. ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM (AHCCCS) ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 7. STANDARDS FOR PAYMENTS

Section
R9-22-712.05. Graduate Medical Education Fund Allocation

ARTICLE 7. STANDARDS FOR PAYMENTS

R9-22-712.05. Graduate Medical Education Fund Allocation

- A. Graduate medical education (GME) reimbursement as of September 30, 1997. Subject to legislative appropriation, the Administration shall make a distribution based on direct graduate medical education costs as described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(a).
- B. Subject to available funds and approval by CMS, the Administration shall annually distribute monies appropriated for the expansions of GME programs approved by the Administration to hospitals for direct program costs eligible for funding under A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(b). A GME program is deemed to be established as of the date of its original accreditation. All determinations that are necessary to make distributions described by this subsection shall be made using information possessed by the Administration as of the date of reporting under subsection (B)(3).
 - 1. Eligible health care facilities. A health care facility is eligible for distributions under subsection (B) if all of the following apply:
 - a. It is a hospital in Arizona that is the sponsoring institution of, or a participating institution in, one or more of the GME programs in Arizona;
 - b. It incurs direct costs for the training of residents in the GME programs, which costs are or will be reported on the hospital’s Medicare Cost Report;
 - c. It is not administered by or does not receive its primary funding from an agency of the federal government.
 - 2. Eligible resident positions. For purposes of determining program allocation amounts under subsection (B)(4) the following resident positions are eligible for consideration to the extent that the resident training takes place in Arizona and not at a health care facility made ineligible under subsection (B)(1)(c):
 - a. Filled resident positions in approved programs established as of October 1, 1999 at hospitals that receive funding as described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(a) that are additional to the number of resident positions that were filled as of October 1, 1999; and
 - b. All filled resident positions in approved programs other than GME programs described in A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(a) that were established before July 1, 2006.
 - 3. Annual reporting. By April 1st of each year, each GME program and each hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (B) shall provide the applicable information listed in this subsection to the Administration:
 - a. A GME program shall provide all of the following:
 - i. The program name and number assigned by the accrediting organization;
 - ii. The original date of accreditation;
 - iii. The names of the sponsoring institution and all participating institutions current as of the date of reporting;
 - iv. The number of approved resident positions and the number of filled resident positions current as of the date of reporting;
 - v. For programs established as of October 1, 1999, the number of resident positions that were filled as of October 1, 1999, if the program has not already provided this information to the Administration;
 - b. A hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (B) shall provide all of the following that apply:



- i. If the hospital uses the Intern and Resident Information System (IRIS) for tracking and reporting its resident activity to the fiscal intermediary, copies of the IRIS master and assignment files for the hospital's two most recently completed Medicare cost reporting years as filed with the fiscal intermediary;
 - ii. If the hospital does not use the IRIS or has less than two cost reporting years available in the form of the IRIS master and assignment files, the information normally contained in the IRIS master and assignment files in an alternative format for the hospital's two most recently completed Medicare cost reporting years;
 - iii. At the request of the Administration, a copy of the hospital's Medicare Cost Report or any part of the report for the most recently completed cost reporting year.
 4. Allocation of expansion funds. Annually the Administration shall allocate available funds to each approved GME program in the following manner:
 - a. Information provided by hospitals under subsection (B)(3)(b) shall be used to determine the program in which each eligible resident is enrolled and the number of days that each eligible resident worked in any area of the hospital complex or in a non-hospital setting under agreement with the reporting hospital during the period of assignment to that hospital. For this purpose, the Administration shall use data relating to the most recent 12-month period that is common to all information provided under subsections (B)(3)(b)(i) and (ii).
 - b. The number of eligible residents allocated to each participating institution within each approved GME program shall be determined as follows:
 - i. Total the number of days determined for each participating institution under subsection (B)(4)(a) and divide each total by 365.
 - ii. Proportionally adjust the result of subsection (B)(4)(b)(i) for each participating institution within each program according to the number of residents determined to be eligible under subsection (B)(2).
 - c. The number of allocated eligible residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) shall be adjusted for Arizona Medicaid utilization using the most recent Medicare Cost Report information on file with the Administration as of the date of reporting under subsection (B)(3) and the Administration's inpatient hospital claims and encounter data for the time period corresponding to the Medicare Cost Report information for each hospital. The Administration shall use only those inpatient hospital claims paid by the Administration and encounters that were adjudicated by the Administration as of the date of reporting under subsection (B)(3). The Medicaid-adjusted eligible residents shall be determined as follows:
 - i. For each hospital, the total AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care shall be divided by the total Medicare Cost Report inpatient hospital days, multiplied by 100 and rounded up to the nearest multiple of 5 percent.
 - ii. The number of allocated eligible residents determined for each participating hospital under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) shall be multiplied by the percentage derived under subsection (B)(4)(c)(i) for that hospital. The number of allocated eligible residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) for a participating institution that is not a hospital and not a health care facility made ineligible under subsection (B)(1)(c) shall be multiplied by the percentage derived under subsection (B)(4)(c)(i) for the program's sponsoring institution or, if the sponsoring institution is not a hospital, the sponsoring institution's affiliated hospital. The number of allocated eligible residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) for a participating institution that is made ineligible under subsection (B)(1)(c) shall be multiplied by zero percent.
 - d. The total allocation for each approved program shall be determined by multiplying the Medicaid-adjusted eligible residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(c)(ii) by the per resident conversion factor determined below and totaling the resulting dollar amounts for all participating institutions in the program. The per resident conversion factor shall be determined as follows:
 - i. Calculate the total direct GME costs from the most recent Medicare Cost Reports on file with the Administration for all hospitals that have reported such costs.
 - ii. Calculate the total allocated residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(b)(i) for those hospitals described under subsection (B)(4)(d)(i).
 - iii. Divide the total GME costs calculated under subsection (B)(4)(d)(i) by the total allocated residents calculated under subsection (B)(4)(d)(ii).
 5. Distribution of expansion funds. On an annual basis subject to available funds, the Administration shall distribute the allocated amounts determined under subsection (B)(4) in the following manner:
 - a. The allocated amounts shall be distributed in the following order of priority:
 - i. To eligible hospitals that do not receive funding in accordance with A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(a) for the direct costs of programs established before July 1, 2006;
 - ii. To eligible hospitals that receive funding in accordance with A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(a) for the direct costs of programs established before July 1, 2006;
 - b. The allocated amounts shall be distributed to the eligible hospitals in each approved program in proportion to the number of Medicaid-adjusted eligible residents allocated to each hospital within that program under subsection (B)(4)(c)(ii).
 - c. If funds are insufficient to cover all distributions within any priority group described under subsection (B)(5)(a), the Administration shall adjust the distributions proportionally within that priority group.



- C. Subject to available funds and approval by CMS, the Administration shall annually distribute monies appropriated for the expansions of GME programs approved by the Administration to hospitals for direct program costs eligible for funding under A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(c)(i). A GME program is deemed to be established as of the date of its original accreditation. All determinations that are necessary to make distributions described by this subsection shall be made using information possessed by the Administration as of the date of reporting under subsection (C)(3).
1. Eligible health care facilities. A health care facility is eligible for distributions under subsection (C) if it meets all the conditions of subsections (B)(1)(a) through (c).
 2. Eligible resident positions. For purposes of determining program allocation amounts under subsection (C)(4), the following resident positions are eligible for consideration to the extent that the resident training takes place in Arizona and not at a health care facility made ineligible under subsection (B)(1)(c):
 - a. All filled resident positions in approved programs established on or after July 1, 2006; and
 - b. For approved programs established on or after July 1, 2006 that have been established for less than one year as of the date of reporting under subsection (C)(3) and have not yet filled their first-year resident positions, all prospective residents reasonably expected by the program to be enrolled as a result of the most recently completed annual resident match.
 3. Annual reporting. By April 1st of each year, each GME program and each hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (C) shall provide to the Administration:
 - a. A GME program shall provide all of the following:
 - i. The requirements of subsections (B)(3)(a)(i) through (iv);
 - ii. The academic year rotation schedule on file with the program current as of the date of reporting; and
 - iii. For programs described under subsection (C)(2)(b), the number of residents expected to be enrolled as a result of the most recently completed annual resident match.
 - b. A hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (C) shall provide the requirements of subsection (B)(3)(b).
 4. Allocation of expansion funds. Annually the Administration shall allocate available funds to approved GME programs in the following manner:
 - a. Information provided by hospitals in accordance with subsection (B)(3)(b) shall be used to determine the program in which each eligible resident is enrolled and the number of days that each eligible resident worked in any area of the hospital complex or in a non-hospital setting under agreement with the reporting hospital during the period of assignment to that hospital. For this purpose, the Administration shall use data relating to the most recent 12-month period that is common to all information provided in accordance with subsections (B)(3)(b)(i) and (ii).
 - b. For approved programs whose resident activity is not represented in the information provided in accordance with subsection (B)(3)(b), information provided by GME programs under subsection (C)(3)(a) shall be used to determine the number of days that each eligible resident is expected to work at each participating institution.
 - c. The number of eligible residents allocated to each participating institution for each approved GME program shall be determined by totaling the number of days determined under subsections (C)(4)(a) and (b) and dividing the totals by 365.
 - d. The number of allocated residents determined under subsection (C)(4)(c) shall be adjusted for Arizona Medicaid utilization in accordance with subsection (B)(4)(c).
 - e. The total allocation for each approved program shall be determined in accordance with subsection (B)(4)(d).
 5. Distribution of expansion funds. On an annual basis subject to available funds, the Administration shall distribute the allocated amounts determined under subsection (C)(4) to the eligible hospitals in each approved program in proportion to the number of Medicaid-adjusted eligible residents allocated to each within that program under subsection (C)(4)(d).
- D. Subject to available funds and approval by CMS, the Administration shall annually distribute monies appropriated for GME programs approved by the Administration to hospitals for indirect program costs eligible for funding under A.R.S. § 36-2903.01(H)(9)(c)(ii). A GME program is deemed to be established as of the date of its original accreditation. All determinations that are necessary to make distributions described by this subsection shall be made using information possessed by the Administration as of the date of reporting under subsection (D)(3).
1. Eligible health care facilities. A health care facility is eligible for distributions under subsection (D) if all of the following apply:
 - a. It is a hospital in Arizona that is the sponsoring institution of or a participating institution in one or more of the GME programs in Arizona or is the base hospital for one or more of the GME programs in Arizona whose sponsoring institutions are not hospitals;
 - b. It incurs indirect program costs for the training of residents in the GME programs which costs are or will be calculated on the hospital's Medicare Cost Report or are reimbursable under the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Payment Program administered by HRSA;
 - c. It is not administered by or does not receive its primary funding from an agency of the federal government.
 2. Eligible resident positions. For purposes of determining program allocation amounts under subsection (D)(4) the following resident positions are eligible for consideration to the extent that the resident training takes place in Arizona and not at a health care facility made ineligible under subsection (D)(1)(c):



- a. Any filled resident position in an approved program that includes a rotation of at least one month per year in a county other than Maricopa or Pima whose population was less than 500,000 persons at the time the residency rotation was added to the academic year rotation schedule;
 - b. For approved programs that have been established for less than one year as of the date of reporting under subsection (D)(3) and have not yet filled their first-year resident positions, all prospective residents reasonably expected by the program to be enrolled as a result of the most recently completed annual resident match who will perform rotations of at least one month per year in a county other than Maricopa or Pima whose population was less than 500,000 persons at the time the residency rotation was added to the academic year rotation schedule.
3. Annual reporting. By April 1st of each year, each GME program and each hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (D) shall provide to the Administration:
- a. A GME program shall provide all of the following:
 - i. The requirements of subsections (B)(3)(a)(i) through (iv);
 - ii. The academic year rotation schedule on file with the program current as of the date of reporting;
 - iii. For programs described under subsection (D)(2)(c), the number of residents expected to be enrolled as a result of the most recently completed annual resident match.
 - b. A hospital seeking a distribution under subsection (D) shall provide the requirements of subsection (B)(3)(b)(iii).
4. Allocation of funds for indirect program costs. Annually the Administration shall allocate available funds to approved GME programs in the following manner:
- a. Using the information provided by programs under subsection (D)(3), the Administration shall determine for each program the number of residents in the program who are eligible under subsection (D)(2) and the number of months per year that each eligible resident will perform rotations in counties described by subsection (D)(2), multiply the number of eligible residents by the number of months and multiply the result by the per resident per month conversion factor determined under subsection (D)(4)(b).
 - b. Using the most recent Medicare Cost Reports on file with the Administration for all hospitals that have calculated a Medicare indirect medical education payment, the Administration shall determine a per resident per month conversion factor as follows:
 - i. Calculate each hospital's Medicaid share by dividing the AHCCCS inpatient hospital days of care by the total inpatient hospital days from the Medicare Cost Report. For this purpose, the Administration shall use the information described by subsection (B)(4)(c) for adjusting allocated residents for Arizona Medicaid utilization.
 - ii. Calculate each hospital's Medicare share by dividing the Medicare inpatient days on the Medicare Cost Report by the total inpatient hospital days on the Medicare Cost Report.
 - iii. Divide the Medicaid share by the Medicare share and multiply the resulting ratio by the indirect medical education payment calculated on the Medicare Cost Report.
 - iv. Total the results for all hospitals, divide the result by the total allocated residents determined under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) for these hospitals, and divide that result by 12.
5. Distribution of funds for indirect program costs. On an annual basis subject to available funds, the Administration shall distribute ~~the allocated amounts determined under subsection (D)(4) to the program's sponsoring hospital or the program's base hospital if the sponsoring institution is not a hospital, up to but not exceeding:~~
- a. ~~The amount calculated for the hospital at subsection (D)(4)(b)(iii), or~~
 - b. ~~The median of all amounts calculated at subsection (D)(4)(b)(iii) if no amount was calculated for the hospital.~~ to each eligible hospital the amount calculated for the hospital at subsection (D)(4)(a).
- E. Reallocation of funds. If funds appropriated for subsection (B) are not allocated by the Administration and funds appropriated for subsections (C) and (D) are insufficient to cover all distributions under subsections (C)(5) and (D)(5), the funds not allocated under subsection (B) shall be allocated under subsections (C) and (D) to the extent of the calculated distributions. If funds are insufficient to cover all distributions under subsections (C)(5) and (D)(5), the Administration shall adjust the distributions proportionally. If funds appropriated for subsections (C) and (D) are not allocated by the Administration and funds appropriated for subsection (B) are insufficient to cover all distributions under subsection (B)(5), the funds not allocated under subsections (C) and (D) shall be allocated under subsection (B) to the extent of the calculated distributions.
- F. The Administration may enter into intergovernmental agreements with local, county, and tribal governments wherein local, county and tribal governments may transfer funds or certify public expenditures to the Administration. Such funds or certification, subject to approval by CMS, will be used to qualify for additional federal funds. Those funds will be used for the purposes of reimbursing hospitals that are eligible under subsection (D)(1) and specified by the local, county, or tribal government for indirect program costs other than those reimbursed under subsection (D). ~~The Administration shall allocate available funds. Funds transferred and available under this subsection shall be distributed~~ in accordance with subsection (D) except that reimbursement with such funds is not limited to resident positions or rotations in counties with populations of less than 500,000 persons. On an annual basis subject to available funds, the Administration shall distribute to each eligible hospital the greatest among the following amounts, less any amounts distributed under subsection (D)(5):



1. The amount that results from multiplying the total number of eligible residents allocated to the hospital under subsection (B)(4)(b)(ii) times 12 times the per resident per month conversion factor determined under subsection (D)(4)(b);
2. The amount calculated for the hospital at subsection (D)(4)(b)(iii);
3. The median of all amounts calculated at subsection (D)(4)(b)(iii) if the hospital does not have an indirect medical education payment calculated on the Medicare Cost Report.