



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 - PUBLIC NOTICE
ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM (AHCCCS)

[M15-296]

- 1. Name of the Agency: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)
2. The topic of the public information notice:
a. AHCCCS Fee-For-Service (FFS) rates for various fee schedules effective for dates of service beginning October 1, 2015, and
b. For inpatient hospital rates to address costs associated with high acuity pediatric cases to be effective for dates of discharge beginning January 1, 2016.
c. The Notice describing the proposed rate changes was posted on the AHCCCS website on June 22, 2015 and also was published in the Arizona Administrative Register on July 10, 2015, with the opportunity for public comment. No comments were received by the AHCCCS Administration during the public comment period.
3. The public information relating to the topic:
a. This Notice describes final rate changes to the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Fee-For-Service (FFS) rates effective October 1, 2015 with the exception of changes to address high acuity pediatric cases which will be effective with dates of discharge on and after January 1, 2016. The total change in FFS payments as a result of the 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 have been updated as described below:
- Select Behavioral Health Fee Schedule inpatient rates have been 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 have been 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 have been updated to match the Medicaid Hospice Payment Rates published by Medicare.
- Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals and Rehabilitation Hospitals per diem rates have been updated for a 1.1% aggregate fiscal impact to address the relative patient acuity among the hospitals.
- Inpatient Hospital APR-DRG rates have been 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 have been updated for a 2.3% aggregate impact to address changes in drug prices.
The following fee schedules have been 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 has been 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 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)
- 2). For dates of discharge 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.
- b. This Notice also describes 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.
- c. The changes described for the rates in this Notice have been implemented 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.
- d. 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.
- e. The Notice of Public Information regarding these changes to rates is expected to be published in the *Arizona Administrative Register* on or before December 4, 2015.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL**

[M15-297]

**PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES FROM SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES  
(Revised Draft Permit)**

- 1. Name of the agency:** Department of Environmental Quality
- 2. Type of notice filed:** Proposed reissuance of General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (Revised Draft Permit)
- 3. A brief description of the proposed general permit:**

Pursuant to 18 A.A.C. 9, Article 9, R18-9-C901 and -C903, the Department is proposing to reissue a general permit under the Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES), authorizing stormwater discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) to waters of the U.S. The proposed permit is intended to replace the small MS4 general permit currently in effect (No. AZG2002-002) and replaces the draft permit published on July 17, 2015.

This permit is issued pursuant to Section 402(p) of the Federal Clean Water Act, in compliance with State statutes and rules. The draft permit includes the six Minimum Control Measures required pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulation, Part 122.34, and includes: Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement/Participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control, Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment, and Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations.
- 4. A description of the permit area:**

The proposed general permit is applicable to discharges from small MS4s in Arizona, excluding Indian Country as defined in 18 U.S.C.1151. Small MS4s are those that are not defined as "large" or "medium" MS4s pursuant to 40 CFR § 122.26(b)(4) or (b)(7) or designated under 40 CFR § 122.26(a)(1)(v). This permit covers small MS4 operators located either fully or partially within an urbanized area as determined by the most recent census conducted by the Bureau of Census, or located in a geographic area designated by ADEQ as requiring a permit pursuant to Ari-



zona Administrative Code R18-9-A902(D).

**5. How to obtain copies of the draft permit documents:**

Copies of the proposed general permit and accompanying fact sheet are available upon request from the agency personnel listed in item 7, below, and on the Department’s website at <https://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/ms4.html>

The proposed general permit and fact sheet are also available at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona and may be reviewed any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**6. The time during which the agency will accept written comments:**

Comments on the revised draft general permit must be submitted c/o Christopher Henninger at the address, fax number, or e-mail address provided below, and received or postmarked no later than **January 20, 2016**. Comments submitted in response to the initial draft general permit in August 2015 will not be considered for the revised draft permit.

Additionally, ADEQ will be holding a public hearing on the revised draft permit pursuant to A.A.C. R18-9-A908. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, **January 20, 2016** at Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

**7. The name, address, and telephone number of agency personnel to whom questions and comments on the general permit may be addressed:**

Name: Christopher Henninger  
Address: Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Surface Water Section  
1110 W. Washington, 5415A-1  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Telephone: (602) 771-4508  
Fax: (602) 771-4528  
E-mail: Henninger.christopher@azdeq.gov