

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST  
RELEASE DATE: JUNE 30, 2022**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO CONTINUE AUGMENTATION  
PAYMENTS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL AIR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

This notice provides information of public interest regarding a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA is seeking federal authority to renew the supplemental payment program for Emergency Medical Air Transportation Services, effective July 1, 2022.

DHCS plans to submit to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) SPA 22-0052, which proposes to continue augmentation payments for Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal emergency medical air transportation services for state fiscal year (SFY) 2022-23, in accordance with the provisions of the Emergency Medical Air Transportation Act (EMATA). (Gov. Code § 76000.10).

Under EMATA, penalty assessments of \$4 are imposed on Vehicle Code violations statewide, with the exception of parking offenses. The penalties collected under EMATA are transferred by counties into the Emergency Medical Air Transportation and Children's Coverage (EMATCC) Fund. In accordance with Government Code section 76000.10, DHCS will continue to make augmentation payments to providers for eligible transport claims through June 30, 2023. The augmentation payments will be made using monies available in the EMATCC Fund and any available federal matching funds, but only until such funds are exhausted.

Upon federal approval of the SPA, DHCS will make augmentation payments for eligible emergency air medical transport services provided for the July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 time period, in accordance with the EMATA. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by CMS.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for emergency air medical transportation augmentation payments will increase by approximately \$4 million in total funds. The maximum pool for augmentation payments in SFY 2022-23 is estimated to be \$ 4 million in total funds.

**PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS**

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA# 22-0052 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending-2022.aspx>

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA # 22-0052 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services  
Fee-For-Service Rates Development Division  
Attn: Provider Rates Section, SPA# 22-0052  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600  
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to [PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov). Please indicate SPA# 22-0052 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA# 22-0052 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.