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DR. DEBRA L. BOGEN,
Acting Secretary

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 23-1801. Filed for public inspection December 29, 2023, 9:00 a.m.]

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Medical Assistance Program Payment for Ambulance Transportation

Background

Act 15 of 2023 (P.L. 63, No. 15), enacted on October 23, 2023, provides for the payment of ground mileage for every loaded mile and that the fees for ambulance services are the greater of the highest Medicare rates published in the Ambulance Fee Schedule Public Use File for calendar year 2023 or the current Medicaid Ambulance Fees as updated by Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin 26-22-07, titled "2023 Ambulance Fee Increases," in both the Fee-for-Service (FFS) and managed care delivery systems, subject to Federal approval as may be necessary and contingent on the availability of Federal financial participation, beginning January 1, 2024.

Discussion

The Department of Human Services (Department) will be submitting a State Plan Amendment to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) seeking approval of these payment changes. Upon approval by the CMS of the State Plan Amendment, the Department will update the (MA) Fee Schedule, for dates of service on and after January 1, 2024, as follows:

<i>Procedure Code</i>	<i>Procedure Code Definition</i>	<i>Pricing Modifier</i>	<i>Current MA Fee</i>	<i>MA Fee Effective January 1, 2024</i>
A0425	Ground mileage, per statute mile	U8	\$4 per mile for each loaded mile beyond 20 loaded miles of a trip	\$13.20 per mile for each loaded mile of a trip
A0427	Ambulance service, advanced life support, emergency transport, level 1 (ALS 1—emergency)		\$400	\$607.23
A0429	Ambulance service, basic life support, emergency transport (BLS, emergency)		\$325	\$511.35
A0430	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way (fixed wing)		\$3,325.53	\$5,224.15
A0431	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way (rotary wing)		\$3,325.53	\$6,073.86
A0432	Paramedic intercept (PI), rural area, transport furnished by a volunteer ambulance company which is prohibited by state law from billing third-party payers		\$80	\$456.19
A0433	Advanced life support, level 2 (ALS 2)		\$400	\$878.88
A0434	Specialty care transport (SCT)		\$400	\$1,038.68
A0436	Rotary wing air mileage, per statute mile		\$22.45 per mile for each loaded mile beyond 20 loaded miles of a trip	\$40.92 per mile for each loaded mile beyond 20 loaded miles of a trip

Upon CMS approval, the Department will issue an MA Bulletin advising ambulance providers of the change.

Fiscal Impact

The overall estimated fiscal impact for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 is \$2.313 million (\$0.634 million in State funds and \$1.678 million in Federal funds) for FFS, \$41.561 million (\$13.161 million in State funds and \$28.400 million in Federal funds) for Capitation, and \$13.935 million (\$6.394 million in State funds and \$7.542 million in Federal funds) for Community HealthChoices (CHC). The overall annualized amount is \$4.625 million (\$1.268 million in State funds and \$3.357 million in Federal funds) for FFS, \$99.747 million (\$30.850 million in State funds and \$68.897 million in Federal funds) for Capitation and \$33.445 million (\$15.101 million in State funds and \$18.344 million in Federal funds) for CHC.

Public Comment

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Department of Human Services, Office of Medical Assistance Programs, c/o Regulations Coordinator, P.O. Box 2675, Harrisburg, PA 17120 or RA-PWMAProgComments@pa.gov. Comments received within 30 days will be reviewed and considered for any subsequent revision of the MA Program Fee Schedule.

Persons with a disability who require an auxiliary aid or service may submit comments using the Pennsylvania Hamilton Relay Service at (800) 654-5984 (TDD users) or (800) 654-5988 (voice users).

VALERIE A. ARKOOSH,
Secretary

Fiscal Note: 14-NOT-1605. Under section 612 of The Administrative Code of 1929 (71 P.S. § 232), (1) General Fund;

(7) (MA)—FFS; (2) Implementing Year 2023-24 is \$634,000; (3) 1st Succeeding Year 2024-25 through 5th Succeeding Year 2028-29 are \$1,268,000; (4) 2022-23 Program—\$589,137,000; 2021-22 Program—\$644,059,000; 2020-21 Program—\$808,350,000;

(7) MA—Capitation; (2) Implementing Year 2023-24 is \$13,161,000; (3) 1st Succeeding Year 2024-25 through 5th Succeeding Year 2028-29 are \$30,850,000; (4) 2022-23 Program—\$4,557,000,000; 2021-22 Program—\$3,060,000,000; 2020-21 Program—\$2,508,000,000;

(7) MA—Community HealthChoices; (2) Implementing Year 2023-24 is \$6,394,000; (3) 1st Succeeding Year 2024-25 through 5th Succeeding Year 2028-29 are \$15,101,000; (4) 2022-23 Program—\$4,252,000,000; 2021-22 Program—\$3,166,000,000; 2020-21 Program—\$2,329,000,000;

(8) recommends adoption. Funds have been included in the budget to cover this increase.

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**DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR AND INDUSTRY**

Appendix A

**Unemployment Compensation; Table Specified for
Determination of Rate and Amount of Benefits**

The purpose of this notice is to announce the Table Specified for the Determination of Rate and Amount of Benefits (Table) and the maximum weekly unemployment compensation (UC) benefit rate for calendar year 2024.

The Table, found in section 404(e)(1) of the Unemployment Compensation Law (law) (43 P.S. § 804(e)(1)), shall be extended or contracted annually to the point where the maximum weekly benefit rate for a calendar year equals 66 2/3% of the average weekly wage for the 36-month period ending on the previous June 30. 43 P.S. § 804(e)(2)(i)(A). The Table was amended by the act of November 3, 2016 (P.L. 1100, No. 144) (Act 144), which imposed limitations on the maximum weekly benefit rate. For calendar year 2024, Act 144 limits the maximum weekly benefit rate to the same amount as the maximum weekly benefit rate of the preceding year if the trigger percentage calculated by the Secretary on July 1, 2023, is less than 215%. 43 P.S. § 804(e)(2)(iv)(B). Because the trigger percentage calculated on July 1, 2023, was less than 215%, the maximum weekly benefit rate for calendar year 2024 will remain at \$605. As a result, the Table will remain the same for calendar year 2024 as published in this notice.

The Table, as amended by Act 144, was published at 47 Pa.B. 362 (January 21, 2017) and codified in 34 Pa. Code Chapter 65, Appendix A. Under section 201(a) of the law (43 P.S. §§ 761(a)), section 404(e)(2) of the law and 34 Pa. Code § 65.111 (relating to benefit table), the Table for 2024 is being adopted by this notice and will be codified in 34 Pa. Code Chapter 65, Appendix A.

Under section 404(e)(2) of the law, this Table is effective for claimants whose benefit years begin on or after January 1, 2024.

Questions concerning this notice should be directed to Maria Macus, Deputy Secretary for Unemployment Compensation Programs, 651 Boas Street, Room 1700, Harrisburg, PA 17121.

NANCY WALKER,
Secretary

<i>Part A Highest Quarterly Wage</i>	<i>Part B Rate of Compensation</i>	<i>Part C Qualifying Wages</i>
\$1,688—\$1,712	\$68	\$2,718
\$1,713—\$1,737	\$69	\$2,758
\$1,738—\$1,762	\$70	\$2,797
\$1,763—\$1,787	\$71	\$2,837
\$1,788—\$1,812	\$72	\$2,877
\$1,813—\$1,837	\$73	\$2,916
\$1,838—\$1,862	\$74	\$2,956
\$1,863—\$1,887	\$75	\$2,996
\$1,888—\$1,912	\$76	\$3,035
\$1,913—\$1,937	\$77	\$3,075
\$1,938—\$1,962	\$78	\$3,115
\$1,963—\$1,987	\$79	\$3,154
\$1,988—\$2,012	\$80	\$3,194
\$2,013—\$2,037	\$81	\$3,234
\$2,038—\$2,062	\$82	\$3,274
\$2,063—\$2,087	\$83	\$3,313
\$2,088—\$2,112	\$84	\$3,353
\$2,113—\$2,137	\$85	\$3,393
\$2,138—\$2,162	\$86	\$3,432
\$2,163—\$2,187	\$87	\$3,472
\$2,188—\$2,212	\$88	\$3,512
\$2,213—\$2,237	\$89	\$3,551
\$2,238—\$2,262	\$90	\$3,591
\$2,263—\$2,287	\$91	\$3,631
\$2,288—\$2,312	\$92	\$3,670
\$2,313—\$2,337	\$93	\$3,710
\$2,338—\$2,362	\$94	\$3,750
\$2,363—\$2,387	\$95	\$3,789
\$2,388—\$2,412	\$96	\$3,829
\$2,413—\$2,437	\$97	\$3,869
\$2,438—\$2,462	\$98	\$3,908
\$2,463—\$2,487	\$98	\$3,948
\$2,488—\$2,512	\$99	\$3,988
\$2,513—\$2,537	\$100	\$4,027
\$2,538—\$2,562	\$101	\$4,067
\$2,563—\$2,587	\$102	\$4,107
\$2,588—\$2,612	\$103	\$4,147
\$2,613—\$2,637	\$104	\$4,186
\$2,638—\$2,662	\$105	\$4,226
\$2,663—\$2,687	\$106	\$4,266
\$2,688—\$2,712	\$107	\$4,305
\$2,713—\$2,737	\$108	\$4,345