

**PROPOSED CHANGES IN METHODS AND STANDARDS
FOR ESTABLISHING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT RATES**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES**

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is proposing changes in the methods and standards of payment to providers. The proposed changes become effective for dates of service as provided in the schedule below.

The Department of Human Services and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services are proposing to implement rate increases for facilities licensed by the Department of Public Health under the ID/DD Community Care Act, as well as facilities licensed under the MC/DD Act. The increase shall include hourly adjustments for residential services provided by aides on July 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022. In addition on January 1, 2022, an increase will be implemented sufficient to provide wages for all residential non-executive direct care staff, excluding aides, at the federal Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' average wage as defined in rule by the Department. The adjustments are outlined in the table below.

Following is a schedule of the effective dates of the rate increases, the associated increase in the hourly wage being implemented, and the annual expenditure amount associated with each increase:

<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Wage Adjustment</u>	<u>Annual Expenditure Increase</u>
July 1, 2021	\$0.50 per hour for aides	\$ 6.5 million
January 1, 2022	\$1.00 per hour for aides, and increase to other direct care staff up to BLS average wage	\$ 13.2 million

Any interested party may submit questions or comments concerning these proposed changes in reimbursement methods and standards. All questions or comments must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of the publication date of this notice and addressed to:

Bureau of Program and Policy Coordination
Division of Medical Programs
Healthcare and Family Services
201 South Grand Avenue East
Springfield, IL 62763-0001
E-mail address: HFS.bpra@illinois.gov

This notice may be viewed at the DHS local offices (except in Cook County). In Cook County, the notice may be reviewed at the Office of the Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, 401 South Clinton Street, 1st Floor, Chicago, Illinois. Comments received regarding this notice shall be published on the HFS web site at <http://www.illinois.gov/hfs/info/legal/PublicNotices/Pages/>

This notice is being provided in accordance with federal requirements found at 42 *CFR* 447.205.