

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to C.F.R. § 447.205, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in methods and standards for setting payment rates for services in the SoonerCare program. The following payment changes will necessitate amendments to the Oklahoma Medicaid State Plan.

Nursing Facilities Supplemental Payment Program

The OHCA proposes to implement a supplemental payment program for nursing facilities owned and as applicable operated by non-state government owned (NSGO) entities effective January 1, 2017. The state plan amendment defines the scope, the payment methodology, and the payment frequency for the supplemental payment program as up to the allowable Medicare upper payment limit (UPL) to qualified nursing facilities. The estimated total budget impact for the Nursing Facilities Supplemental Payment Program State Plan Amendment is budget neutral as the program will leverage federal dollars governed under federal policy. Additional federal dollars will be available by leveraging the gap between Medicaid and Medicare payments up to the UPL. The effect to nursing facilities will be additional funding that could help sustain financially challenged urban and rural nursing facilities. The effect to nursing home residents, as a result of the funding, will be an enhancement in the quality of care. The NSGOs will bear the cost of providing the state share match for the program.

Copies of the proposed State Plan Amendment documents are available for public review at the OHCA by contacting Melinda Thomason at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., OKC, Oklahoma, 73105, Telephone 405-522-7125. She will link callers with local agencies in each county where copies of the proposed changes are available for public review. Written and oral comments will be accepted during regular business hours by contacting Ms. Thomason as indicated. Comments submitted will be available for review by the public Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at OHCA at the above address.