



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

May 11, 2021

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

RE: SPA #20-0069

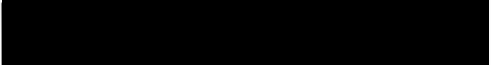
Dear Mr. Scott:

The State requests approval of the enclosed amendment #20-0069 to the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan effective March 1, 2020.

This amendment is being sent to you for your review and approval based on the current global pandemic, COVID-19.

If you or your staff have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Regina Deyette of my staff at (518) 473-3658.

Sincerely,


Donna Frescatore
Medicaid Director
Office of Health Insurance Programs

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES	1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>20-0069</u>	2. STATE New York
	3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID) TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE March 1, 2020
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5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One)

NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate transmittal for each amendment)

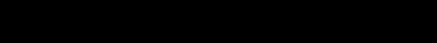
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION Section 1135 of SSA and Title XIX of SSA	7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT a. FFY 03/01/20-09/30/20E \$ 44,071.61 b. FFY 10/01/20-09/30/21E \$ 122,103.07
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8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT Attachment: 7.4 Page: 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31	9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable) Attachment: NEW
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10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT
COVID 19 Emergency Relief
(FMAP=50%)

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT OTHER, AS SPECIFIED
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL 	16. RETURN TO New York State Department of Health Division of Finance and Rate Setting 99 Washington Ave - One Commerce Plaza Suite 1432E Albany, NY 12210
13. TYPED NAME Donna Frescatore	
14. TITLE Medical Director, Department of Health	
15. DATE SUBMITTED May 11, 2021	

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED	18. DATE APPROVED
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PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL	20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL
21. TYPED NAME	22. TITLE

23. REMARKS

Section 7 – General Provisions

7.4. Medicaid Disaster Relief for the COVID-19 National Emergency

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency by the authorities vested in him by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and consistent with section 1135 of the Social Security Act (Act). On March 13, 2020, pursuant to section 1135(b) of the Act, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services invoked his authority to waive or modify certain requirements of titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Act as a result of the consequences COVID-19 pandemic, to the extent necessary, as determined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in the respective programs and to ensure that health care providers that furnish such items and services in good faith, but are unable to comply with one or more of such requirements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be reimbursed for such items and services and exempted from sanctions for such noncompliance, absent any determination of fraud or abuse. This authority took effect as of 6PM Eastern Standard Time on March 15, 2020, with a retroactive effective date of March 1, 2020. The emergency period will terminate, and waivers will no longer be available, upon termination of the public health emergency, including any extensions.

The State Medicaid agency (agency) seeks to implement the policies and procedures described below, which are different than the policies and procedures otherwise applied under the Medicaid state plan, during the period of the Presidential and Secretarial emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 outbreak (or any renewals thereof), or for any shorter period described below:

Describe shorter period here.

NOTE: States may not elect a period longer than the Presidential or Secretarial emergency declaration (or any renewal thereof). States may not propose changes on this template that restrict or limit payment, services, or eligibility, or otherwise burden beneficiaries and providers.

Request for Waivers under Section 1135

 X The agency seeks the following under section 1135(b)(1)(C) and/or section 1135(b)(5) of the Act:

- a. X SPA submission requirements – the agency requests modification of the requirement to submit the SPA by March 31, 2020, to obtain a SPA effective date during the first calendar quarter of 2020, pursuant to 42 CFR 430.20.
- b. X Public notice requirements – the agency requests waiver of public notice requirements that would otherwise be applicable to this SPA submission. These requirements may include those specified in 42 CFR 440.386 (Alternative Benefit Plans), 42 CFR 447.57(c) (premiums and cost sharing), and 42 CFR 447.205 (public notice of changes in statewide methods and standards for setting payment rates).

- c. X Tribal consultation requirements – the agency requests modification of tribal consultation timelines specified in [insert name of state] Medicaid state plan, as described below:

New York will reduce the tribal consultation to zero days before submission to CMS. Tribal consultation will still be completed and mailed as per guidelines in New York’s approved state plan.

Section A – Eligibility

1. The agency furnishes medical assistance to the following optional groups of individuals described in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii) or 1902(a)(10)(c) of the Act. This may include the new optional group described at section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XXIII) and 1902(ss) of the Act providing coverage for uninsured individuals.

Include name of the optional eligibility group and applicable income and resource standard.

2. The agency furnishes medical assistance to the following populations of individuals described in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XX) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.218:

- a. All individuals who are described in section 1905(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XX)

Income standard: _____

-or-

- b. Individuals described in the following categorical populations in section 1905(a) of the Act:

Income standard: _____

3. The agency applies less restrictive financial methodologies to individuals excepted from financial methodologies based on modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) as follows.

Less restrictive income methodologies:

Less restrictive resource methodologies:

4. _____ The agency considers individuals who are evacuated from the state, who leave the state for medical reasons related to the disaster or public health emergency, or who are otherwise absent from the state due to the disaster or public health emergency and who intend to return to the state, to continue to be residents of the state under 42 CFR 435.403(j)(3).

5. _____ The agency provides Medicaid coverage to the following individuals living in the state, who are non-residents:

6. _____ The agency provides for an extension of the reasonable opportunity period for non-citizens declaring to be in a satisfactory immigration status, if the non-citizen is making a good faith effort to resolve any inconsistencies or obtain any necessary documentation, or the agency is unable to complete the verification process within the 90-day reasonable opportunity period due to the disaster or public health emergency.

Section B – Enrollment

1. _____ The agency elects to allow hospitals to make presumptive eligibility determinations for the following additional state plan populations, or for populations in an approved section 1115 demonstration, in accordance with section 1902(a)(47)(B) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.1110, provided that the agency has determined that the hospital is capable of making such determinations.

Please describe the applicable eligibility groups/populations and any changes to reasonable limitations, performance standards or other factors.

2. _____ The agency designates itself as a qualified entity for purposes of making presumptive eligibility determinations described below in accordance with sections 1920, 1920A, 1920B, and 1920C of the Act and 42 CFR Part 435 Subpart L.

Please describe any limitations related to the populations included or the number of allowable PE periods.

3. _____ The agency designates the following entities as qualified entities for purposes of making presumptive eligibility determinations or adds additional populations as described below in accordance with sections 1920, 1920A, 1920B, and 1920C of the Act and 42 CFR Part 435 Subpart L. Indicate if any designated entities are permitted to make presumptive eligibility determinations only for specified populations.

Please describe the designated entities or additional populations and any limitations related to the specified populations or number of allowable PE periods.

4. _____ The agency adopts a total of _____ months (not to exceed 12 months) continuous eligibility for children under age enter age _____ (not to exceed age 19) regardless of changes in circumstances in accordance with section 1902(e)(12) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.926.
5. _____ The agency conducts redeterminations of eligibility for individuals excepted from MAGI-based financial methodologies under 42 CFR 435.603(j) once every _____ months (not to exceed 12 months) in accordance with 42 CFR 435.916(b).
6. _____ The agency uses the following simplified application(s) to support enrollment in affected areas or for affected individuals (a copy of the simplified application(s) has been submitted to CMS).
- a. _____ The agency uses a simplified paper application.
 - b. _____ The agency uses a simplified online application.
 - c. _____ The simplified paper or online application is made available for use in call-centers or other telephone applications in affected areas.

Section C – Premiums and Cost Sharing

1. _____ The agency suspends deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, and other cost sharing charges as follows:

Please describe whether the state suspends all cost sharing or suspends only specified deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, or other cost sharing charges for specified items and services or for specified eligibility groups consistent with 42 CFR 447.52(d) or for specified income levels consistent with 42 CFR 447.52(g).

2. _____ The agency suspends enrollment fees, premiums and similar charges for:
- a. _____ All beneficiaries

- b. The following eligibility groups or categorical populations:

Please list the applicable eligibility groups or populations.

3. The agency allows waiver of payment of the enrollment fee, premiums and similar charges for undue hardship.

Please specify the standard(s) and/or criteria that the state will use to determine undue hardship.

Section D – Benefits

Benefits:

1. The agency adds the following optional benefits in its state plan (include service descriptions, provider qualifications, and limitations on amount, duration or scope of the benefit):

2. The agency makes the following adjustments to benefits currently covered in the state plan:

3. The agency assures that newly added benefits or adjustments to benefits comply with all applicable statutory requirements, including the statewideness requirements found at 1902(a)(1), comparability requirements found at 1902(a)(10)(B), and free choice of provider requirements found at 1902(a)(23).

4. Application to Alternative Benefit Plans (ABP). The state adheres to all ABP provisions in 42 CFR Part 440, Subpart C. This section only applies to states that have an approved ABP(s).

- a. The agency assures that these newly added and/or adjusted benefits will be made available to individuals receiving services under ABPs.
- b. Individuals receiving services under ABPs will not receive these newly added

and/or adjusted benefits, or will only receive the following subset:

Please describe.

Telehealth:

5. The agency utilizes telehealth in the following manner, which may be different than outlined in the state's approved state plan:

Please describe.

Drug Benefit:

6. The agency makes the following adjustments to the day supply or quantity limit for covered outpatient drugs. The agency should only make this modification if its current state plan pages have limits on the amount of medication dispensed.

Please describe the change in days or quantities that are allowed for the emergency period and for which drugs.

7. Prior authorization for medications is expanded by automatic renewal without clinical review, or time/quantity extensions.

8. The agency makes the following payment adjustment to the professional dispensing fee when additional costs are incurred by the providers for delivery. States will need to supply documentation to justify the additional fees.

Please describe the manner in which professional dispensing fees are adjusted.

9. The agency makes exceptions to their published Preferred Drug List if drug shortages occur. This would include options for covering a brand name drug product that is a multi-source drug if a generic drug option is not available.

Section E – Payments

Optional benefits described in Section D:

1. Newly added benefits described in Section D are paid using the following methodology:

- a. Published fee schedules –
Effective date (enter date of change): _____
Location (list published location): _____
- b. Other:

Describe methodology here.

Increases to state plan payment methodologies:

2. X The agency increases payment rates for the following services:

- 1) Alternate Level of Care (ALC) Medicaid per diem rates in an acute hospital setting.
- 2) Enhanced Medicaid per diem rates in certain skilled nursing facilities.

- a. X Payment increases are targeted based on the following criteria:

1) Establish new COVID-19 ALC Medicaid per diem reimbursement rates for ALC hospital stays for patients who meet all of the following criteria: the patient was admitted as an inpatient to the same hospital immediately prior to the ALC stay with COVID-19 as a primary or secondary diagnosis; the patient has been determined appropriate for discharge from the hospital, however, subacute care is medically necessary; the patient continues to test positive for COVID-19 and cannot be discharged or transferred to a nursing home or other setting.

2) Effective January 1, 2021, establish COVID-19 only skilled nursing facilities/physical building which will serve persistently positive nursing home eligible residents who are beyond the infectious period as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Such nursing homes must be able to provide a building which is physically isolated and separate, or stand alone such as there is no air flow between such building and any other building that is not part of the COVID only facility. The facility staff must be dedicated and staff assigned shall have no duties that require entry to any nursing home building outside of the COVID positive only facility. COVID positive nursing homes designated pursuant to New York State Executive Order 202.81 shall provide daily reports to the Department of Health on current census, planned admissions and planned discharges. Any violation of the terms of any Memorandum of Understanding or any other agreement entered into and between the COVID only nursing home and the New York State Department of Health may result in nursing home facing penalties under any law, rule, or regulation of the Department of Health, including suspension or revocation of its operating certificate. In addition, the COVID only nursing home must comply with any and all new or amended Executive Orders, directives or advisories issued by the New York State Governor or the New York State Department of Health. In addition, the New York State Department of Health reserves the right to require a compliance officer to oversee the compliance of any COVID positive nursing homes designated pursuant to New York State Executive Order 202.81 with all state and federal statutes, regulations and guidance pertaining to nursing home operation including but not limited to infection control.

b. Payments are increased through:

i. X A supplemental payment or add-on within applicable upper payment limits:

1) Publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) providers are currently reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis, but at a rate that is far less than the actual cost of providing these services. The current national emergency has exacerbated this fiscal gap, by increasing the operating costs of publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) providers, while simultaneously increasing the public need for the vital services that they provide. This proposed amendment is intended to help bridge this fiscal gap.

Only Medicaid enrolled, publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) providers will be eligible to participate in the PEMT program. Any private emergency medical transportation providers that may have contracted with governmental entities to provide this service are not eligible to participate.

Effective April 1, 2020, and throughout the duration of the declared national emergency; subject to Federal financial participation, a supplemental reimbursement program for publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) providers would be established.

Concurrent with the adoption of this amendment, any publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) providers, which are also participating in the inpatient supplemental reimbursement program, will no longer be reimbursed through the inpatient rates as a non-comparable add-on to the acute per discharge rate. This will eliminate the risk overpayments to providers.

Supplemental payments provided by this program are available only for allowable costs that are in excess of other Medicaid revenue that the approved PEMT entities receive for emergency medical transportation services to Medicaid approved recipients. Approved PEMT entities must provide a certification to the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) by completing and signing an annual cost report which calculates: (a) a certification for the total allowable expenditure of funds, and (b) a certification of federal financial participation (FFP) eligibility for the amount claimed.

PEMT Providers will be required to submit a single, signed certified annual cost report. The state will collect signed Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) reports, and any required forms, from all participating PEMT providers prior to submitting a claim for federal reimbursement. Final cost settlements will be reconciled to actual cost and claiming activity for the corresponding reporting period.

NYS DOH will require the submission of supporting documentation along with provider cost reports. Reports and supporting documentation will be subject to an initial desk review for all providers prior to submission for supplemental payments. The desk review will focus on provider eligibility and reasonableness of reported cost data. Within six months of cost report submission, the state will also conduct a more in-depth monitoring review of a selected sample of providers

each year. NYS DOH agrees to comply with all federal records retention requirements.

The supplemental Medicaid reimbursement calculation methodology will divide the sum of allowable direct and indirect costs of providing emergency medical ground ambulance transportation services and dry runs (or treat and refer services), by all trip volume, to calculate a total cost per trip. This cost per trip will be multiplied by total number of Medicaid trips, to calculate the total direct Medicaid trip cost.

Allowable direct service costs include capital related, salary and fringe benefit and administrative and general expenditures related to EMS responses that are medical in nature such as ALS and BLS transports as well as dry runs (or treat and refer services). some examples of professional and contracted services that could be listed as direct EMS costs: Contracted Labor for EMT/Paramedics; Medical billing services; Medical control/direction and communication services; and Medical equipment maintenance services.

Payments made to service providers under the provisions of this SPA are funded through a budget appropriation received by the State agency that oversees medical assistance (Medicaid), which is the Department of Health. The source of the appropriation is the Medicaid General Fund Local Assistance Account, which is part of the Global Cap. The Global Cap is funded by General Fund and HCRA resources. Also, there have been no new provider taxes and no existing taxes have been modified.

Additionally, in accordance with 42 C.F.R. section 433.51, or any successor regulation(s), the claimed expenditures for the ground emergency medical transportation services eligible for federal financial participation, when combined with amounts received from all other sources of reimbursement from the Medicaid program, shall not exceed one hundred percent of the public providers' actual cost of providing ground emergency transportation (ambulance) services.

2) The rate add-on for certain skilled nursing facilities will be provided for those residents who have a positive COVID diagnosis as defined above.

ii. X An increase to rates as described below.

Rates are increased:

 2 Uniformly by the following percentage: 50%

 Through a modification to published fee schedules –

Effective date (enter date of change): _____

Location (list published location): _____

 Up to the Medicare payments for equivalent services.

 1 By the following factors:

Six mutually exclusive COVID-19 ALC Medicaid per diem rates will be established for COVID-19 ALC patient days as shown below. These new ALC rates will vary based on geographic location of the patient and whether the patient is on a ventilator and/or is receiving dialysis. Hospitals will be required to test patients in COVID-19 ALC stays twice a week. The COVID-19 ALC Medicaid per diem rates will be paid for each ALC day in the hospital until the day following the day on which the first negative COVID-19 test results are available to the hospital. After such time, should the patient remain in an ALC stay, the per diem rates shall revert to the current lower ALC per diem rates under the previously approved State Plan Amendment.

	Non-Ventilator Dependent	Ventilator Dependent	Ventilator w Dialysis
Upstate	\$657.84	\$955.63	\$1,066.72
Downstate	\$859.23	\$1,212.25	\$1,353.34

Payment for services delivered via telehealth:

3. For the duration of the emergency, the state authorizes payments for telehealth services that:
- a. Are not otherwise paid under the Medicaid state plan;
 - b. Differ from payments for the same services when provided face to face;
 - c. Differ from current state plan provisions governing reimbursement for telehealth;

Describe telehealth payment variation.

- d. Include payment for ancillary costs associated with the delivery of covered services via telehealth, (if applicable), as follows:
 - i. Ancillary cost associated with the originating site for telehealth is incorporated into fee-for-service rates.
 - ii. Ancillary cost associated with the originating site for telehealth is separately reimbursed as an administrative cost by the state when a Medicaid service is delivered.

Other:

4. Other payment changes:

Please describe

Section F – Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income

1. The state elects to modify the basic personal needs allowance for institutionalized individuals. The basic personal needs allowance is equal to one of the following amounts:
 - a. The individual’s total income
 - b. 300 percent of the SSI federal benefit rate
 - c. Other reasonable amount: _____

2. The state elects a new variance to the basic personal needs allowance. (Note: Election of this option is not dependent on a state electing the option described the option in F.1. above.)

The state protects amounts exceeding the basic personal needs allowance for individuals who have the following greater personal needs:

Please describe the group or groups of individuals with greater needs and the amount(s) protected for each group or groups.

Section G – Other Policies and Procedures Differing from Approved Medicaid State Plan /Additional Information

PRA Disclosure Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1148 (Expires 03/31/2021). The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 to 2 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. Your response is required to receive a waiver under Section 1135 of the Social Security Act. All responses are public and will be made available on the CMS web site. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850. ***CMS Disclosure*** Please do not send applications, claims, payments, medical records or any documents containing sensitive information to the PRA Reports Clearance Office. Please note that any correspondence not pertaining to the information collection burden approved under the associated OMB control number listed on this form will not be reviewed, forwarded, or retained. If you have questions or concerns regarding where to submit your documents, please contact the Centers for Medicaid & CHIP Services at 410-786-3870.

SPA 20-0069

CMS Standard Funding Questions

The following questions should be answered in relation to all payments made to all providers reimbursed pursuant to a methodology for each of the applicable services that are submitted pursuant to SMDL #13-003.

- 1. Section 1903(a)(1) provides that Federal matching funds are only available for expenditures made by States for services under the approved State plan. Do providers receive and retain the total Medicaid expenditures claimed by the State (includes normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced payments, other) or is any portion of the payments returned to the State, local governmental entity, or any other intermediary organization? If providers are required to return any portion of payments, please provide a full description of the repayment process. Include in your response a full description of the methodology for the return of any of the payments, a complete listing of providers that return a portion of their payments, the amount or percentage of payments that are returned and the disposition and use of the funds once they are returned to the State (i.e., general fund, medical services account, etc.)**

Response: Providers do retain the payments made pursuant to this amendment. However, this requirement in no way prohibits the public provider, including county providers, from reimbursing the sponsoring local government for appropriate expenses incurred by the local government on behalf of the public provider. The State does not regulate the financial relationships that exist between public health care providers and their sponsoring governments, which are extremely varied and complex. Local governments may provide direct and/or indirect monetary subsidies to their public providers to cover on-going unreimbursed operational expenses and assure achievement of their mission as primary safety net providers. Examples of appropriate expenses may include payments to the local government which include reimbursement for debt service paid on a provider's behalf, reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums paid for a provider's retirees, reimbursement for contractually required health benefit fund payments made on a provider's behalf, and payment for overhead expenses as allocated per federal Office of Management and Budget Circular 2 CFR 200 regarding Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments. The existence of such transfers should in no way negate the legitimacy of these facilities' Medicaid payments or result in reduced Medicaid federal financial participation for the State. This position was further supported by CMS in review and approval of SPA 07-

07C when an on-site audit of these transactions for New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation was completed with satisfactory results.

2. **Section 1902(a)(2) provides that the lack of adequate funds from local sources will not result in lowering the amount, duration, scope, or quality of care and services available under the plan. Please describe how the state share of each type of Medicaid payment (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) is funded. Please describe whether the state share is from appropriations from the legislature to the Medicaid agency, through intergovernmental transfer agreements (IGTs), certified public expenditures (CPEs), provider taxes, or any other mechanism used by the state to provide state share. Note that, if the appropriation is not to the Medicaid agency, the source of the state share would necessarily be derived through either through an IGT or CPE. In this case, please identify the agency to which the funds are appropriated. Please provide an estimate of total expenditure and State share amounts for each type of Medicaid payment. If any of the nonfederal share is being provided using IGTs or CPEs, please fully describe the matching arrangement including when the state agency receives the transferred amounts from the local governmental entity transferring the funds. If CPEs are used, please describe the methodology used by the state to verify that the total expenditures being certified are eligible for Federal matching funds in accordance with 42 CFR 433.51(b). For any payment funded by CPEs or IGTs, please provide the following:**
- (i) a complete list of the names of entities transferring or certifying funds;**
 - (ii) the operational nature of the entity (state, county, city, other);**
 - (iii) the total amounts transferred or certified by each entity;**
 - (iv) clarify whether the certifying or transferring entity has general taxing authority: and,**
 - (v) whether the certifying or transferring entity received appropriations (identify level of appropriations).**

Response: Payments made to service providers under the provisions of this SPA are funded through a general appropriation received by the State agency that oversees medical assistance (Medicaid), which is the Department of Health. The source of the appropriation is the Medicaid General Fund Local Assistance Account, which is part of the Global Cap. The Global Cap is funded by General Fund and HCRA resources. There have been no new provider taxes and no existing taxes have been modified.

- 3. Section 1902(a)(30) requires that payments for services be consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. Section 1903(a)(1) provides for Federal financial participation to States for expenditures for services under an approved State plan. If supplemental or enhanced payments are made, please provide the total amount for each type of supplemental or enhanced payment made to each provider type.**

Response: The COVID-19 ALC Medicaid per diem rates are a new rate payment and are not a supplemental payment or an enhanced rate payment. However, the publicly owned or operated ground emergency medical transportation (ambulance) payments authorized for this provision are supplemental. The supplemental payments for this ambulance program are estimated to be \$43M federal impact for April 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020 and \$48M federal impact for October 1, 2020 - April 20, 2021. Additionally, The Nursing Home COVID rate enhancement is supplemental for persistent positive COVID individuals in designated skilled nursing facilities. It is anticipated to have a \$13.9M federal impact for the January 1, 2021 through April 20, 2021 period.

- 4. Please provide a detailed description of the methodology used by the state to estimate the upper payment limit (UPL) for each class of providers (State owned or operated, non-state government owned or operated, and privately owned or operated). Please provide a current (i.e. applicable to the current rate year) UPL demonstration. Under regulations at 42 CFR 447.272, States are prohibited from setting payment rates for Medicaid inpatient services that exceed a reasonable estimate of the amount that would be paid under Medicare payment principals.**

Response: The state and CMS are working toward completing and approval of current year UPL.

- 5. Does any governmental provider receive payments that in the aggregate (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) exceed their reasonable costs of providing services? If payments exceed the cost of services, do you recoup the excess and return the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report?**

Response: The rate methodology included in the approved State Plan for institutional services is prospective payment. We are unaware of any requirement under current federal law or regulation that limits individual provider payments to their actual costs.