DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S3-14-28
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Financial Management Group

October 15, 2026

Stuart Portman
Executive Director
Medical Assistance Plans Division
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE
East Tower, 19th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: TN GA-26-0005

Dear Director Portman:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed the proposed Georgia state plan amendment (SPA) to Attachments 4.19-A GA-26-0005, which was submitted to CMS on July 21, 2026. This plan amendment removes the additional funding that established a $1,500 add-on payment for newborn deliveries in rural counties with a population between 35,001 and 50,000.

We reviewed your SPA submission for compliance with statutory requirements, including in sections 1902(a)(2), 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30), and 1903 as it relates to the identification of an adequate source for the non-federal share of expenditures under the plan, as required by 1902(a)(2) of the Social Security Act and the applicable implementing Federal regulations.

Based upon the information provided by the state, we have approved the amendment with an effective date of July 1, 2026. We are enclosing the approved CMS-179 and a copy of the new state plan pages.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact James Francis at 617-531-7575 or via email at James.Francis@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rory Howe

Rory Howe
Director
Financial Management Group

Enclosures

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - INPATIENT SERVICES

I. Hospital Crossover Claims

The maximum allowable payment to enrolled Georgia and non-Georgia hospitals for Medicare inpatient deductibles and coinsurance (crossover claims) will be the hospital-specific Medicaid per case rate. The maximum allowable payment to non-Georgia hospitals not enrolled the Georgia Medicaid program for Medicare inpatient crossover claims will be the average hospital-specific inpatient per case rate for enrolled non- Georgia hospitals.

J. Payment in Full

Participating in-state providers must accept the amount paid in accordance with the Georgia Title XIX Inpatient Hospital Reimbursement Plan as payment in full for covered services.

K. Expanded Newborn Screening Program

Effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2010, an additional payment of $50 per newborn admission will be made to fund costs associated with the expansion of the newborn screening program administered by the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

Effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2020, the reimbursement amount for newborn screening services will increase from $63 to $80.40 to fund costs associated with the expansion of the newborn screening program administered by the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Effective for services provided on and after August 15, 2025, the reimbursement amount for newborn screening services will increase from $80.40 to $88.33 to include Krabbe disease in the newborn screening program administered by the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Effective for services provided on and after March 15, 2026, the reimbursement amount for newborn screening services will increase from $88.33 to $96.13 to fund costs associated with the expansion of the newborn screening program administered by the Georgia Department of Public Health.

L. Rural Hospital Newborn Delivery Program

Effective for deliveries occurring between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017, an additional payment of $250 per newborn delivery will be made to hospitals in rural counties with populations less than 35,000.

Effective for deliveries occurring between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018, the additional payment per newborn delivery will increase by $500, resulting in a total additional payment of $750 per newborn delivery for hospitals in rural counties with populations less than 35,000.

Effective for deliveries occurring on and after July 1, 2018, the additional payment per newborn delivery will increase by $250, resulting in a total additional payment of $1,000 per newborn delivery for hospitals in rural counties with populations less than 35,000.

Effective for deliveries occurring on or after July 1, 2025, the additional payment per newborn delivery will increase by $2, 000, resulting in a total additional payment of $3,000 for newborn deliveries for hospitals in rural counties with populations less than 35,000.