

## **Table of Contents State/Territory Name: CA**

### **State Plan Amendment (SPA): CA-24-0025**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

1. Approval Letter
2. CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
3. Approved SPA Pages

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services  
230 South Dearborn  
Chicago, Illinois 60604



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**Financial Management Group**

January 15, 2025

Tyler Sadwith  
State Medicaid Director  
California Department of Health Care Services  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

RE: TN 24-0025

Dear Director Sadwith:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed the proposed California state plan amendment (SPA) to Attachment 4.19-B CA-24-0025, which was submitted to CMS on September 23, 2024. This plan amendment authorizes supplemental add-on payments to the fee schedule rates for eligible ground emergency transports provided between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

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, 2024. 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 Blake Holt at 303-844-6218 or via email at [blake.holt@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:blake.holt@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Todd McMillion.

Todd McMillion  
Director  
Division of Reimbursement Review

Enclosures

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 4 — 0 0 2 5

2. STATE

CA3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL  
SECURITY ACT

XIX



XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

July 1, 2024

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

Title 42 CFR 447 Subpart F

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

a. FFY 2024 \$ 1,746,000b. FFY 2025 \$ 6,229,000

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Supplement 29 to Attachment 4.19-B, pages 1-2

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

Supplement 29 to Attachment 4.19-B, pages 1-2

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Reimbursement rate add-on for ground emergency medical transports (GEMT) under the GEMT Quality Assurance Fee program,  
effective for dates of service July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT



COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED



NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL



OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

Please note: The Governor's Office does not wish to review  
the State Plan Amendment.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

12. TYPED NAME

Tyler Sadwith

13. TITLE

State Medicaid Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED

September 23, 2024

15. RETURN TO

Department of Health Care Services

Attn: Director's Office

P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000

Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED

September 23, 2024

17. DATE APPROVED

January 15, 2025

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

July 1, 2024

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Todd McMillion

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Director, Division of Reimbursement Review

22. REMARKS

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: CALIFORNIA

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**ONE-YEAR REIMBURSEMENT RATE ADD-ON FOR  
GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT (GEMT) SERVICES UNDER  
THE GEMT QUALITY ASSURANCE FEE PROGRAM**

**Introduction**

This Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Quality Assurance Fee (GEMT QAF) program provides increased reimbursement to eligible GEMT providers by application of an add-on to the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) fee schedule base rates for emergency medical transportation services. The reimbursement rate add-on will apply to the emergency medical transport Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes, as described below, effective for transports provided July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The base rates for emergency medical transportation services will remain unchanged through this amendment.

“Emergency medical transport” means the act of transporting an individual from any point of origin to the nearest medical facility capable of meeting the emergency medical needs of the patient by an ambulance licensed, operated, and equipped in accordance with applicable state or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations, excluding transportation by an air ambulance provider, that are billed with HCPCS Codes A0429 BLS Emergency, A0427 ALS Emergency, and A0433 ALS2, A0434 Specialty Care Transport, and A0225 Neonatal Emergency Transport. An “emergency medical transport” does not occur when, following evaluation of a patient, a transport is not provided.

Public providers of “emergency medical transport” or GEMT services will not be eligible to receive the add-on described here pursuant to the GEMT QAF program during periods when the Public Provider Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Intergovernmental Transfer (PP-GEMT IGT) program is implemented, as described on page 3 of this Supplement.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: CALIFORNIA

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### Methodology

For SFY 2024-25, the reimbursement rate add-on is fixed. The resulting payment amounts are equal to the sum of the FFS fee schedule base rate for the SFY 2024-25 and the add-on amount for the HCPCS Code. The resulting total payment amount for HCPCS Codes A0429, A0427, A0433, and A0434 is \$339.00, and for HCPCS Code A0225 is \$400.72. The add-on is paid for each eligible HCPCS Code on a per-claim basis.

HCPCS Code	Description	Current Fee Schedule Rate*	Add On Amount	Resulting Total Payment
A0429	Basic Life Support, Emergency	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0427	Advanced Life Support, Level 1, Emergency	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0433	Advanced Life Support, Level 2	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0434	Specialty Care Transport	\$118.20	\$220.80	\$339.00
A0225	Neonatal Emergency Transport	\$179.92	\$220.80	\$400.72

\*These are the base rates associated with these codes, but are subject to further adjustments pursuant to the State Plan.