

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 447.205 Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 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. An ITU notice was sent to inform tribal partners of this change on April 19, 2024. The proposed changes were presented at the Tribal Consultation meeting on April 30, 2024 at 11:00 AM via teleconference.

Pharmacists as Providers, Effective date: November 1, 2024, contingent upon CMS approval.

The proposed revisions amend the State Plan to comply with Title 56 Oklahoma Statutes section 4002.12. House Bill 2322 of the 2022 Regular Session directed the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to reimburse pharmacists at a rate equal to other providers when providing services within their scope of practice. Vaccine administration is the only claimable service determined to be within the scope of practice of pharmacists at this time. Currently, only pharmacies are able to bill for services rendered by pharmacists; however, this state plan amendment (SPA) establishes that services provided by pharmacists will be reimbursed in accordance with the reimbursement methodology currently established for physician services. The revisions will take effect November 1, 2024, contingent upon CMS approval.

This budget impact is expected to be effectively budget neutral due to a shift in billing provider type; no net increase in utilization or cost is expected. The estimated budget impact for SFY 2025 is \$179,558 in total; with \$59,110 in the state share. For SFY 2026, the total is estimated to be \$269,336; with \$88,665 in the state share.

Interested persons may visit oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/public-notice to view a copy of the public notice(s) and visit oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/proposed-changes to view a copy of the proposed state plan amendment and a link to provide public comments on the proposal. Persons wishing to present their views in writing or obtain copies of the proposed state plan amendments may do so via mail by writing to: Oklahoma Health Care Authority, Federal Authorities Unit, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105, or by email at federal.authorities@okhca.org. Written comments or requests for copies of the proposed state plan amendments will be accepted by contacting OHCA as indicated. Comments submitted through the OHCA policy blog will be available for review online at oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/proposed-changes. Other written comments are available upon request at federal.authorities@okhca.org. Comments will be accepted from August 23, 2024 through September 7, 2024.