

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Intent to Adopt Regulations

In accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-168 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Commissioner of Social Services, under the authority of section 17b-262 of the Connecticut General Statutes, proposes to add sections 17b-262-994 to 17b-262-1004, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, to provide the requirements for payments to federally qualified health centers.

Statement of Purpose: (A) The primary purpose of these regulations is to establish in regulation format the Department's requirements for payment for federally qualified health centers services provided to Medicaid clients. The problems, issues or circumstances that the regulation proposes to address: the existing regulations are outdated and inconsistent with the federal requirements for payment to federally qualified health centers under 42 USC 1396a (bb).

(B) The main provisions of the regulation: (1) add new definitions as necessary; (2) specify services that are covered and billable as encounters; (3) establish an FQHC group rate for group psychotherapy and group counseling sessions; (4) specify services that are not billable as an encounter but included in the encounter rate; (5) specify services not covered; (6) describe the process by which an FQHC may request an adjustment of its encounter rate based upon a change in scope of services; (7) clarify prior authorization requirements; (8) describe billing requirements and the methodology for calculating the encounter rate; and (9) outline documentation and audit requirements.

(C) The legal effects of the regulation, including all of the ways that the regulation would change existing regulations or other laws are: The legal effect of the regulation is to adopt the department's current policy regarding the payment for federally qualified health center services provided to Medicaid clients as a regulation and to repeal sections 17-134d-70 to 17-134d-78, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

A copy of the complete text of these regulations is available at no cost upon request from the Department of Social Services, Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and Administrative Hearings, 25 Sigourney Street, 12th floor, Hartford, CT 06106; email melanie.dillon@ct.gov.

All interested persons who wish to present their views, questions, or concerns regarding these regulations may do so at a public hearing to be held on December 19, 2013 from 1:00 to 2:30 in Conference Room 3 on the Mezzanine Level, at the Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT.

In addition, all written comments regarding these regulations may be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the eRegulations System to the Department of Social Services, Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Attention: Brenda Parrella.

When submitting comments please refer to regulation control # 12-24/MD.