

StateWatch

Bill Review Edition

December 2017

Keep current with new legislation and its potential effect on your organization. This regulatory update is for informational purposes only, and provides some key highlights on state initiatives that may impact the bill review services Genex provides. This information is also available online at genexservices.com/legislative-updates.

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National

The **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid** has made updates to the following fee schedules/guidelines, effective Jan. 1:

- *Ambulance*
- *ASP Drug Pricing Files*
- *Home Health*
- *Mutually Unlikely Edits (MUE)*
- *Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery Center Payment Systems*
- *Physician Fee Schedule*
- *HCPCS*

Alabama

The state **Department of Labor** *State Fee Schedule* yearly update is proposed to be effective Jan. 1.

Alaska

The **Department of Labor and Workforce Development** has *updated its Medical Fee Schedule and guidelines*. The changes become effective Jan. 1.

California

The **Department of Industrial Relations (DIR)** has *updated its Inpatient Hospital Fee Schedule* to comply to the changes made by Medicare. The updates became effective Dec. 1.

Also, several of the **American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's (ACOEM's)** *guidelines have been adopted* by the state and went into effect Dec.1. These guidelines include:

- Initial Approaches to Treatment Guideline
- Opioids Guideline
- Chronic Pain Guideline
- Ankle and Foot Disorders Guideline
- Occupational/Work-Related Asthma Medical Treatment Guideline
- Low Back Disorders Guideline
- Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders Guideline
- Elbow Disorders Guideline
- Eye Disorders Guideline
- Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders Guideline
- Hip and Groin Guideline
- Knee Disorders Guideline
- Occupational Interstitial Lung Disease Guideline
- Shoulder Disorders Guideline

DIR also announced its *Physician and Non-Physician Practitioner Services section* of the Official Medical Fee Schedule has been updated to conform to the changes made by Medicare. The updates take effect Jan. 1.

FraudWatch: The **Division of Workers' Compensation** (DWC) *has suspended an additional 21 medical providers* from treating injured workers in the workers' compensation system over the past month. The total number of suspended providers to date is 115.

Colorado

The **Department of Labor and Employment** has *updated its Medical Fee Schedule, version 11212017* as well as its *Rule 16: Utilization Standards and Rule 18: Medical Fee Schedule and Exhibits*. The updates take effect Jan. 1.

Delaware

The **Office of Workers' Compensation** has *updated its Fee Schedule Data and Guidelines*, which takes effect Jan. 31.

Florida

The **Division of Workers' Compensation** has announced that the *2018 maximum workers' compensation weekly rates* for injuries will be \$917, effective Jan. 1.

Hawaii

The **Disability Compensation Division** has recently *made changes to its Medical Fee Schedule*. These updates take effect Jan. 1.

Illinois

The **Department of Healthcare and Family Services** has *posted updates to the Anesthesia, HCPCS, Dental, Professional, Hospital and Non-Hospital Fee Schedules*. The updates take effect Jan. 1.

Maine

The **Workers' Compensation Board** *annual update to the state's Medical Fee Schedule* has been made and is effective Jan. 1.

Maryland

Conversion factors for the state's fee schedule have been posted by the **Workers' Compensation Commission** and will take effect Jan. 1.

Massachusetts

The **Office of Health and Human Services** has *posted proposed changes to 101 CMR 346.00* Rates for Certain Substance Abuse Programs will be effective Jan. 1 if adopted.

Michigan

The **Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs** annual *update to the state's Fee Schedule* is proposed to take effect Jan. 1.

Nebraska

Proposed *changes to the Medical, Surgical and Hospital DRG* have been posted by the **Workers' Compensation Court** and, if adopted, will take effect Jan. 1.

New Jersey

The **Department of Banking and Insurance** has *posted its Proposed Auto Medical Fee Schedule*. If adopted it will be effective Jan. 1.

New Mexico

The **Workers' Compensation Administration** has *updated its Medical and Hospital Fee Schedules*. The revisions take effect Jan. 1.

Also, the **Taxation & Revenue Department** has *updated its Gross Receipts Tax Rate*, which will be effective from Jan. 1 through June 30.

New York

The **Department of Financial Services'** final *adoption of the New York No-Fault 33rd Proposed Amendment to Insurance Regulation 83* has been made and includes reimbursement for out-of-state providers. These changes will be effective Jan. 23.

North Dakota

The **North Dakota Workforce Safety and Insurance** annual *update to the Ambulance, ASC, DME, Dental, Physician, Inpatient, Outpatient, and Laboratory Fee Schedules* have been posted and are scheduled to take effect Jan. 1.

Ohio

The **Bureau of Workers' Compensation** has *proposed changes to the Professional Provider Medical Fee Schedule* have been made and, if adopted, will be effective Jan. 1.

Oregon

Proposed changes to the Temporary Medical Fee and Payment Rules have been made and will take effect Jan. 1.

Pennsylvania

The **Department of Labor and Industry's annual update to Part A (Tables A-J) and Part B Medical Providers** has been posted and is set to take effect Jan. 1.

Texas

The **Department of Insurance's new conversion factors have been posted** and will be effective Jan. 1.

Also, a *draft proposal for Telemedicine Services* has been posted and, if adopted, will be effective Jan. 1.

Workers' Compensation Commissioner, **Ryan Brannan**, has *lifted a bulletin* that offered guidance on deadlines and procedures for insurance carriers in response to Hurricane Harvey. All standard workers' compensation deadlines and procedures will go back into effect Jan. 10.

Utah

The **Labor Commission Industrial Accidents Division fee schedule rules for the Medical Fee Standards** for 2018 have been posted and took effect Dec. 1, 2017.

Also, *proposed changes to R590-267*, Personal Injury Protection Relative Value Study Rule, have been made and, if adopted, will be effective Jan. 1.

Vermont

The **Department of Labor** has *posted proposed changes to Rule 40 of the Medical Fee Schedule* which are projected to take effect Jan. 1.

Virginia

The state's *new Medical Fee Schedule* for health care providers, hospitals, and ambulatory surgery centers has been posted and will be effective Jan. 1.

Washington

The state **Department of Labor and Industries** has posted its *annual update to the Medical Fee Schedule* which will take effect Jan. 1.

Wisconsin

The **Department of Workforce Development** has issued its proposed *updates to the Certified and Hospital Radiology database* which are projected to take effect Jan. 1.

Wyoming

The **Department of Workforce Services' fee schedule changes with dental update** is scheduled to take effect Jan. 1.



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