



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

December 26, 2024

GCR 25-006
PROPOSED

Outpatient Prospective Payment System Reimbursement Updates

Policy Summary:

The Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) is conducting its annual review of rates paid for hospital outpatient services. DVHA sets rates based on the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) fee schedule, except when otherwise specified in the Medicaid State Plan. The payment rates are equal to the Medicare rate multiplied by a peer group percentage adjustment; this is due to DVHA's population and case-mix, which differs from a national Medicare population. Due to an overall increase in the Medicare Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) rates, DVHA has decreased the base rates to remain budget neutral.

The DVHA rates effective January 1, 2025, are the Medicare 2025 OPPS Final Rule rates multiplied by the following percentages:

1. In-State Critical Access Hospital (CAH): 104.6%, a decrease from 106.5%.
2. In-State hospitals that do not have a Medicare classification of CAH and who are not considered an academic medical center: 81.8%, a decrease from 83.5%.
3. In-State and Border Academic Medical Centers: 80.5%, a decrease from 82%.
4. Out-of-state Border CAH: 99.3% (equivalent to 95% of the in-state CAH rate), a decrease from 101.2%.
5. Out-of-State Border hospitals that do not have a Medicare classification of CAH and who are not considered an academic medical center: 77.6%, a decrease from 79.3%.
6. All other Out-of-State Hospitals: 77.3%, a decrease from 79%.
7. Ambulatory Surgical Centers: 77.3%, a decrease from 79%.

Effective Date:

January 1, 2025

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

This change is being done through Global Commitment to Health waiver authority, where DVHA may establish rates with providers on an individual or class basis without regard to the rates currently set forth in the approved State Plan.

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#): Waiver authority #5 [Section 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30)]; Special Term and Condition #6.8.

Population Affected:

All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact:

This change is expected to be budget neutral.

Public Comment Period:

December 26, 2024 – January 27, 2025

Send comments to:

Medicaid Policy Unit

280 State Drive, Center Building

Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Or submit via e-mail to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

The draft Global Commitment Amended State Plan page provides additional details on the proposed changes; copies of the draft page can be requested from local Department for Children and Families (DCF) offices or from the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) at (802) 355-8843, or can be found on [Agency of Human Services website](#).