PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

Newborn Screening Rate Increase
State Plan Amendment (SPA)

Pending approval by the Board and by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) seeks to increase the reimbursement rate for the Department of Public Health (DPH) for Newborn Screening.

Upon receiving approval from CMS, this change will be effective March 15, 2026. DPH has historically administered the state's Newborn Screening program and will continue to maintain oversight of the screenings. DPH will begin screening for mucopolysaccharidosis type II (MPS II) and guanidinoacetate methyltransferase deficiency (GAMT). These additions to the NBS panel will result in a $7.80 increase to the current Newborn Screening fee, from $88.33 to $96.13.

The cost impact is as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total
SFY 2026*	$43,444	$85,508	$128,952

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **March 17, 2026 at 11:00 a.m., via Zoom audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days before the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83204932747?pwd=KEb6BK7EQJl0MxOPczUPsUNX1HFcf9.1

Meeting ID: 832 0493 2747
Passcode: 402221

One tap mobile
+16469313860,,83204932747#,,,,*402221# US
+13017158592,,83204932747#,,,,*402221# US (Washington DC)

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **March 24, 2026** to D'Lawren Hicks c/o the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966. You may also email comments to D'Lawren Hicks dlawren.hicks@dch.ga.gov or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to openrecordsrequest@dch.ga.gov. ***Please note that any comments submitted are subject to open records.***

If the proposed changes are presented to the Board for final action, relevant comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board. The Board expects to vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held on **April 9, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.** at the Department of Community Health unless withdrawn or withheld by the Department for further review.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12th DAY OF MARCH 2026
Dean Burke, MD, Commissioner