



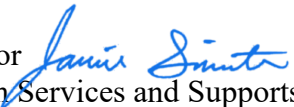
Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Hospice Transmittal No. 30

November 19, 2025

TO: Hospice Providers

FROM: Jamie Smith, Director 
Office of Long Term Services and Supports

RE: Hospice Payment Rates for Federal Fiscal Year 2026

NOTE: **Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

This transmittal updates Maryland Medicaid's hospice payment rates for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026, and supersedes [PT 49-25 Hospice Payment Rates for Federal Fiscal Year 2025](#). These rates are calculated based on the annual hospice rates established under Medicare and are authorized by Section 1814(i)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act.

Section 3004 of the Affordable Care Act established a quality reporting program for hospice providers. Section 1814(i)(5)(A)(i) of the Social Security Act requires that the Secretary reduce the market basket update by four percentage points for any hospice provider that does not comply with the quality data submission requirements. Any provider for whom the market basket reduction applies will receive their rates separately.

The hospice cap runs through each FFY. The latest hospice cap amount, which runs from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, is \$35,361.44. Information regarding the FFY 2026 hospice wage index and the cap amount may be found on the [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Hospice Payments website](#).

For questions regarding this transmittal, please contact Andrea Lavine at andrea.lavine@maryland.gov or 410-767-6771.

Attachments: 2

Maryland Medical Assistance Hospice Program Rates
FFY 2026 Hospice Payment Rates and Wage Index Figures at the Reduced Market Basket Rate (4% reduction to market basket)
Effective October 1, 2025

CBSA	Area/ Region	Counties	Wage Index	Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15-Minute Unit	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
12580	Baltimore-Towson Area [01]	Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Carroll, Harford, Howard, Queen Anne's	0.9508	\$214.91	\$169.39	\$16.15	\$1,550.10	\$64.59	\$522.48	\$1,117.06
47894	Washington, DC Area [02]	Charles, Prince George's, Washington DC	1.0737	\$232.92	\$183.59	\$17.70	\$1,698.86	\$70.79	\$562.87	\$1,207.04
41540	Salisbury Area [03]	Somerset, Wicomico	0.8319	\$197.48	\$155.65	\$14.65	\$1,406.17	\$58.59	\$483.42	\$1,030.00
48864	Wilmington Area [04]	Cecil	1.0868	\$234.84	\$185.10	\$17.86	\$1,714.72	\$71.45	\$567.17	\$1,216.64
25180	Hagerstown Area [05]	Washington	0.9109	\$209.06	\$164.78	\$15.64	\$1,501.80	\$62.58	\$509.37	\$1,087.84
43524	Frederick-Gaithersburg-Bethesda (07)	Frederick, Montgomery	0.9736	\$218.25	\$172.02	\$16.43	\$1,577.69	\$65.74	\$529.98	\$1,133.75
99921	MD Rural Area [08]	Alleghany, Caroline, Kent, Talbot, Dorchester, Garrett, Worcester	0.8788	\$204.35	\$161.07	\$15.24	\$1,462.94	\$60.96	\$498.83	\$1,064.34
30500	Lexington Park Area [09]	St. Mary's, Calvert	0.9270	\$211.42	\$166.64	\$15.85	\$1,521.29	\$63.39	\$514.66	\$1,099.63
				Wage Component Subject to Index:						
The Medicaid hospice payment rates and wage index figures for October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 obtained from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), has been calculated based on the annual hospice rates established under Medicare. These rates are authorized by Section 1814 (i)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act, which provides an annual increase in payment rates for hospice care services. Rates for hospice physician services are not increased under this provision. The final rule for hospice wage index regulations for the Urban Areas for Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA) can be found in the Federal Register. The latest hospice cap amount for the cap year ending September 30, 2026, is \$35,361.44.				Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15 Minutes	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
				\$146.60	\$115.54	\$12.61	\$1,210.46	\$50.44	\$328.58	\$732.21
				Non-Wage Component:						
				Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15 Minutes	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
				\$75.52	\$59.53	\$4.16	\$399.19	\$16.63	\$210.07	\$420.87

Maryland Medical Assistance Hospice Program Rates

FFY 2026 Hospice Payment Rates and Wage Index Figures at the Full Market Basket Rate

Effective October 1, 2025

CBSA	Area/ Region	Counties	Wage Index	Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15-Minute Unit	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
12580	Baltimore-Towson Area [01]	Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Baltimore City, Carroll, Harford, Howard, Queen Anne's	0.9508	\$223.62	\$176.26	\$16.80	\$1,612.97	\$67.21	\$543.69	\$1,162.37
47764	Washington, DC Area [02]	Charles, Prince George's, Washington DC	1.0737	\$242.37	\$191.04	\$18.41	\$1,767.77	\$73.66	\$585.71	\$1,256.01
41540	Salisbury Area [03]	Somerset, Wicomico	0.8319	\$205.49	\$161.97	\$15.24	\$1,463.21	\$60.97	\$503.03	\$1,071.78
48864	Wilmington Area [04]	Cecil	1.0868	\$244.37	\$192.62	\$18.59	\$1,784.27	\$74.35	\$590.19	\$1,265.99
25180	Hagerstown Area [05]	Washington	0.9109	\$217.54	\$171.47	\$16.28	\$1,562.71	\$65.11	\$530.05	\$1,131.97
23224	Frederick-Gaithersburg-Bethesda (07)	Frederick, Montgomery	0.9736	\$227.10	\$179.01	\$17.10	\$1,641.69	\$68.40	\$551.48	\$1,179.75
99921	MD Rural Area [08]	Alleghany, Caroline, Kent, Talbot, Dorchester, Garrett, Worcester	0.8788	\$212.64	\$167.61	\$15.86	\$1,522.28	\$63.43	\$519.07	\$1,107.52
30500	Lexington Park Area [09]	St. Mary's, Calvert	0.9270	\$219.99	\$173.40	\$16.49	\$1,582.99	\$65.96	\$535.55	\$1,144.24
				Wage Component Subject to Index:						
The Medicaid hospice payment rates and wage index figures for October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 obtained from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), has been calculated based on the annual hospice rates established under Medicare. These rates are authorized by Section 1814 (i)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act; which provides an annual increase in payment rates for hospice care services. Rates for hospice physician services are not increased under this provision. The final rule for hospice wage index regulations for the Urban Areas for Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA) can be found in the Federal Register. The latest hospice cap amount for the cap year ending September 30, 2026, is \$35,361.44.				Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15 Minutes	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
				\$152.55	\$120.24	\$13.12	\$1,259.56	\$52.48	\$341.91	\$761.91
				Non-Wage Component:						
				Routine Home Care 1st 60 Days (0653)	Routine Home Care Day 61+ (0651)	Service Intensity Add-On (0654) Per 15 Minutes	Continuous Home Care (0652) Daily	Continuous Home Care (0652) Hourly	Respite In-Patient Care (0655)	General In-Patient Care (0656)
				\$78.58	\$61.94	\$4.33	\$415.38	\$17.31	\$218.60	\$437.95