RULE-MAKING ORDER
PERMANENT RULE ONLY

CR-103P (December 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: December 11, 2019
TIME: 12:48 PM

WSR 20-01-075

Agency: Health Care Authority

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

☒ 31 days after filing.

☐ Other (specify) _____ **(If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)**

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The agency is amending these rules to align with ESHB 1109, Sec. 211(14), 66th Legislature, 2019 Regular Session. The agency is extending the date for rate enhancements to sole community hospitals from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021. During the time, the agency multiplies a hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.50. Starting July 1, 2021, the agency multiplies a hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.25.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed:
Amended: 182-550-3830, 182-550-7500
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160

Other authority: ESHB 1109, Sec. 211(14), 66th Legislature, 2019 Regular Session

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 19-22-096 on November 6, 2019 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Web site:
Other:

Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero. No descriptive text.

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note. A section may be counted in more than one category.

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Federal rules or standards:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

	New	____	Amended	2	Repealed	____

The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Pilot rule making:	New	____	Amended	____	Repealed	____
Other alternative rule making:	New	____	Amended	2	Repealed	____

Date Adopted: December 11, 2019	**Signature:** 
Name: Wendy Barcus	
Title: HCA Rules Coordinator	

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-09-022, filed 4/11/18, effective 5/12/18)

WAC 182-550-3830 Adjustments to inpatient rates. (1) The medicaid agency updates all of the following components of a hospital's specific diagnosis-related group (DRG) factor and per diem rates at rebase:

(a) Wage index adjustment;

(b) Direct graduate medical education (DGME); and

(c) Indirect medical education (IME).

(2) Effective January 1, 2015, the agency updates the sole community hospital adjustment.

(3) The agency does not update the statewide average DRG factor between rebasing periods, except:

(a) To satisfy the budget neutrality conditions in WAC 182-550-3850; and

(b) When directed by the legislature.

(4) The agency updates the wage index to reflect current labor costs in the core-based statistical area (CBSA) where a hospital is located. The agency:

(a) Determines the labor portion by multiplying the base factor or rate by the labor factor established by medicare; then

(b) Multiplies the amount in (a) of this subsection by the most recent wage index information published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) when the rates are set; then

(c) Adds the nonlabor portion of the base rate to the amount in (b) of this subsection to produce a hospital-specific wage adjusted factor.

(5) DGME. The agency obtains DGME information from the hospital's most recently filed medicare cost report that is available in the CMS health care cost report information system (HCRIS) dataset.

(a) The hospital's medicare cost report must cover a period of twelve consecutive months in its medicare cost report year.

(b) If a hospital's medicare cost report is not available on HCRIS, the agency may use the CMS Form 2552-10 to calculate DGME.

(c) If a hospital has not submitted a CMS medicare cost report in more than eighteen months from the end of the hospital's cost reporting period, the agency considers the current DGME costs to be zero.

(d) The agency calculates the hospital-specific DGME by dividing the DGME cost reported on worksheet B, part 1 of the CMS cost report by the adjusted total costs from the CMS cost report.

(6) IME. The agency sets the IME adjustment equal to the "IME adjustment factor for Operating PPS" available in the most recent CMS final rule impact file on CMS's website as of May 1st of the rate-setting year.

(7)((~~(a) Effective January 1, 2015, the agency multiplies the hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.25 if the hospital meets the criteria in this subsection.~~

~~(b)~~)) The agency considers an in-state hospital to qualify for ((~~the~~)) a rate enhancement if all of the following conditions apply. The hospital must:

((~~(i)~~)) (a) Be certified by CMS as a sole community hospital as of January 1, 2013;

((~~(ii)~~)) (b) Have a level III adult trauma service designation from the department of health as of January 1, 2014;

((~~(iii)~~)) (c) Have less than one hundred fifty acute care licensed beds in fiscal year 2011; ((~~and~~

~~(iv)~~)) (d) Be owned and operated by the state or a political subdivision((~~.~~

~~(v)~~)); and

(e) Not participate in the certified public expenditures (CPE) payment program defined in WAC 182-550-4650.

(8) If an in-state hospital qualifies for the rate enhancement in subsection (7) of this section, effective:

(a) January 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018, the agency multiplies the hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.25.

(b) July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021, the agency multiplies the hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.50.

(c) July 1, 2021, the agency multiplies the hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rates by 1.25.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-16-059, filed 7/26/18, effective 8/26/18)

WAC 182-550-7500 OPPS rate. (1) The medicaid agency calculates hospital-specific outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) rates using all of the following:

(a) A base conversion factor established by the agency;

(b) An adjustment for direct graduate medical education (DGME); and

(c) The latest wage index information established and published by the centers for medicare and medicaid services (CMS) when the OPPS rates are set for the upcoming year. Wage index information reflects labor costs in the cost-based statistical area (CBSA) where a hospital is located.

(2) Base conversion factors. The agency calculates the base enhanced ambulatory patient group (EAPG) conversion factor during a hospital payment system rebasing. The base is calculated as the maximum amount that can be used, along with all other payment factors and adjustments described in this chapter, to maintain aggregate payments across the system. The agency will publish base conversion factors on its website.

(3) Wage index adjustments reflect labor costs in the CBSA where a hospital is located.

(a) The agency determines the labor portion of the base rate by multiplying the base rate by the labor factor established by medicare; then

(b) Multiplying the amount in (a) of this subsection is multiplied by the most recent wage index information published by CMS when the rates are set; then

(c) The agency adds the nonlabor portion of the base rate to the amount in (b) of this subsection to produce a hospital-specific wage adjusted factor.

(4) DGME. The agency obtains the DGME information from the hospital's most recently filed medicare cost report as available in the CMS health care cost report information system (HCRIS) dataset.

(a) The hospital's medicare cost report must cover a period of twelve consecutive months in its medicare cost report year.

(b) If a hospital's medicare cost report is not available on HCRIS, the agency may use the CMS Form 2552-10 to calculate DGME.

(c) In the case where a hospital has not submitted a CMS medicare cost report in more than eighteen months from the end of the hospital's cost reporting period, the agency may remove the hospital's DGME adjustment.

(d) The agency calculates the hospital-specific DGME by dividing the DGME cost reported on worksheet B, part 1 of the CMS cost report by the adjusted total costs from the CMS cost report.

(5) The formula for calculating the hospital's final specific conversion factor is:

EAPG base rate × (.6(wage index) + .4)/(1-DGME)

(6) The agency considers an in-state hospital a sole community hospital if all the following conditions apply. The hospital must:

(a) Be certified by CMS as a sole community hospital as of January 1, 2013.

(b) Have a level III adult trauma service designation from the department of health as of January 1, 2014.

(c) Have less than one hundred fifty acute care licensed beds in fiscal year 2011.

(d) Be owned and operated by the state or a political subdivision.

(7) If the hospital meets the agency's sole community hospital (SCH) criteria listed in subsection (6) of this section, effective:

(a) January 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018, the agency multiplies the hospital's specific conversion factor by 1.25;

(b) July 1, 2018, through June 30, ((~~2019~~)) 2021, the agency multiplies an in-state hospital's specific EAPG conversion factor by 1.50;

(c) July 1, ((~~2019~~)) 2021, the agency multiplies an in-state hospital's specific EAPG conversion factor by 1.25.

(8) The formula for calculating a sole community hospital's final conversion factor is:

[EAPG base rate × (.6(wage index) + .4)/(1-DGME)] x SCH Factor