

NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2025

PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO RATES, COMMUNICATION AIDES, AND REMOTE SUPPORT SERVICES

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA implements final adjustments as a result of rate reform, adds Trainer as a new provider type under Communication Aides, and expands the scope of Technology Services to better meet the need of individuals to live independently in the community. DHCS requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders concerning proposed SPA 25-0040 is attached.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures by implementing final adjustments as a result of rate reform, adding Remote Support Services as a new service, and adding Trainer under Communication Aides may result in a decrease of an estimated \$7,812,000 in waiver year four (4) and \$13,390,200 in waiver year five (5) of total funds.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is March 1, 2026. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Public Review and Comments

The proposed changes included in draft SPA 25-0040 are enclosed in this notice for public comment. DHCS is requesting stakeholder input on the impact, if any, on access to services as a result of the proposed action.

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of proposed SPA 25-0040 will be published at the following internet address:

 $\underline{https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/PendingStatePlanAmendments.asp} \underline{x}.$



If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 25-0040 or a copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 25-0040 by requesting it in writing to the mailing or email address listed below. Please indicate SPA 25-0040 in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Developmental Services
Attn: Jonathan Hill
1215 O Street MS 7-40
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email Federal.Programs@dds.ca.gov

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA 25-0040 in the subject line or message.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of the SPA to CMS, comments must be received no later than November 9, 2025. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after November 9, 2025, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of SPA 25-0040 to CMS.