

**256B.196 INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS; HOSPITAL PAYMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Federal approval required.** This section is contingent on federal approval of the intergovernmental transfers and payments authorized under this section. This section is also contingent on current payment by the government entities of the intergovernmental transfers under this section.

Subd. 2. **Commissioner's duties.** (a) For the purposes of this subdivision and subdivision 3, the commissioner shall determine the fee-for-service outpatient hospital services upper payment limit for nonstate government hospitals. The commissioner shall then determine the amount of a supplemental payment to Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital for these services that would increase medical assistance spending in this category to the aggregate upper payment limit for all nonstate government hospitals in Minnesota. In making this determination, the commissioner shall allot the available increases between Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital based on the ratio of medical assistance fee-for-service outpatient hospital payments to the two facilities. The commissioner shall adjust this allotment as necessary based on federal approvals, the amount of intergovernmental transfers received from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, and other factors, in order to maximize the additional total payments. The commissioner shall inform Hennepin County and Ramsey County of the periodic intergovernmental transfers necessary to match federal Medicaid payments available under this subdivision in order to make supplementary medical assistance payments to Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital equal to an amount that when combined with existing medical assistance payments to nonstate governmental hospitals would increase total payments to hospitals in this category for outpatient services to the aggregate upper payment limit for all hospitals in this category in Minnesota. Upon receipt of these periodic transfers, the commissioner shall make supplementary payments to Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision and subdivision 3, the commissioner shall determine an upper payment limit for physicians affiliated with Hennepin County Medical Center and with Regions Hospital. The upper payment limit shall be based on the average commercial rate or be determined using another method acceptable to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The commissioner shall inform Hennepin County and Ramsey County of the periodic intergovernmental transfers necessary to match the federal Medicaid payments available under this subdivision in order to make supplementary payments to physicians affiliated with Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital equal to the difference between the established medical assistance payment for physician services and the upper payment limit. Upon receipt of these periodic transfers, the commissioner shall make supplementary payments to physicians of Hennepin Faculty Associates and HealthPartners.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2010, Hennepin County and Ramsey County shall make monthly intergovernmental transfers to the commissioner in the following amounts: \$133,333 by Hennepin County and \$100,000 by Ramsey County. The commissioner shall increase the medical assistance capitation payments to Metropolitan Health Plan and HealthPartners by an amount equal to the annual value of the monthly transfers plus federal financial participation.

(d) The commissioner shall inform Hennepin County and Ramsey County on an ongoing basis of the need for any changes needed in the intergovernmental transfers in order to continue the payments under paragraphs (a) to (c), at their maximum level, including increases in upper payment limits, changes in the federal Medicaid match, and other factors.

(e) The payments in paragraphs (a) to (c) shall be implemented independently of each other, subject to federal approval and to the receipt of transfers under subdivision 3.

**Subd. 3. Intergovernmental transfers.** Based on the determination by the commissioner under subdivision 2, Hennepin County and Ramsey County shall make periodic intergovernmental transfers to the commissioner for the purposes of subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) to (c). All of the intergovernmental transfers made by Hennepin County shall be used to match federal payments to Hennepin County Medical Center under subdivision 2, paragraph (a); to physicians affiliated with Hennepin Faculty Associates under subdivision 2, paragraph (b); and to Metropolitan Health Plan under subdivision 2, paragraph (c). All of the intergovernmental transfers made by Ramsey County shall be used to match federal payments to Regions Hospital under subdivision 2, paragraph (a); to physicians affiliated with HealthPartners under subdivision 2, paragraph (b); and to HealthPartners under subdivision 2, paragraph (c).

**Subd. 4. Adjustments permitted.** (a) The commissioner may adjust the intergovernmental transfers under subdivision 3 and the payments under subdivision 2, based on the commissioner's determination of Medicare upper payment limits, hospital-specific charge limits, hospital-specific limitations on disproportionate share payments, medical inflation, actuarial certification, and cost-effectiveness for purposes of federal waivers. Any adjustments must be made on a proportional basis. The commissioner may make adjustments under this subdivision only after consultation with the affected counties and hospitals. All payments under subdivision 2 and all intergovernmental transfers under subdivision 3 are limited to amounts available after all other base rates, adjustments, and supplemental payments in chapter 256B are calculated.

(b) The ratio of medical assistance payments specified in subdivision 2 to the voluntary intergovernmental transfers specified in subdivision 3 shall not be reduced except as provided under paragraph (a).

Subd. 5. **Recession period.** Each type of intergovernmental transfer in subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) to (d), for payment periods from October 1, 2008, through December 31, 2010, is voluntary on the part of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, meaning that the transfer must be agreed to, in writing, by the counties prior to any payments being issued. One agreement on each type of transfer shall cover the entire recession period.

**History:** 2009 c 79 art 5 s 44