

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for Home Health Services – Zoom Public Hearing Transcript
10/04/23 @ 11:00 CST

Mac Golden: Welcome everyone to the public hearing on electronic visit verification for home health services. Anita Castleberry, the Division of Medical Services Business Operations Manager will be reading the Notice of Rule Making. Then we will open the floor for public comments. Please utilize the raise hand feature via zoom if you would like to make a comment. All official responses to public comments will appear on the DHS proposed rules website after the public comment period concludes. Ms. Castleberry will now read the notice of rulemaking.

Anita Castleberry: This is Anita Castleberry speaking.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule, under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§20-76-201, 20-77-107, and 25-10-129.

The Director of the Division of Medical Services amends Section I of the Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manual, and applicable sections of Sections 261.100 of the ARChoices in Homecare Home and Community Based 2176 Waiver provider manual, Home Health provider manual, and the Personal Care provider manual. These updates comply with the 21st Century Cures Act. The Act requires state agencies to implement a system of Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for home health care services that are provided and reimbursed under Medicaid. The proposed effective date of the rule is January 1, 2024. The proposed rule estimates a financial impact savings of (\$187,289.00) (\$153,886.00 of which is federal funds) for state fiscal year (SYF) 2024 and (\$1,376,068.00) (\$593,568) of which is federal funds) for SYF 2025.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 23-02, DHS repeals the following two rules as part of this promulgation: (1) DDS Policy 1027 – Incident Reporting Procedural Guidelines, and (2) DDS Policy 1035 – Agency Definition of Disability/Eligibility for Services.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at ar.gov/dhs-proposed-rules.

Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than October 21, 2023. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at (501) 320-6428.

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Mac Golden: Thank you, Miss Castleberry. If anyone would like to make a public comment at this time, please utilize the raise hand feature in zoom and you will be recognized to give a public comment.

Also, please let the record reflect we have four attendees for today's public hearing. I'll pause for a moment to recognize anyone who wishes to make a comment.

It does not appear anyone wishes to make a comment today. We thank you for attending, and this public hearing will now be closed.