Signature Authority for Diabetic Shoes and Shoe Inserts
Zoom Public Hearing:(07/15/2026 @ 10:00 a.m.)

Mac Golden: Good morning, everyone. I'm Mac Golden with the Office of Policy and Rules. I welcome you to a public hearing regarding a rule on Signature Authority for Diabetic Shoes and Shoe Inserts. I will be reading the notice of rulemaking, and then I will open the floor for public comments. If you would like to make a comment, please use the raise hand feature in Zoom and you'll be recognized to give your comment. Any DHS responses to public comments will appear on the DHS Proposed Rule website after the comment period ends. I will now read the notice.

Notice of Rulemaking. The Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty 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 projected effective date of the rule is October 1, 2026, if approved. There is no fiscal impact.

The Division of Medical Services implements Act 431 of 2025. The Act clarified that advanced practice registered nurse and physician assistant signature authority for durable medical equipment includes, without limitation, orthotics, prosthetics, and diabetic shoes or shoe inserts that are designed to reduce the risk of skin breakdown in patients with diabetes and existing foot disease and to relieve pressure to prevent diabetic foot ulcers. The Arkansas Medicaid Prosthetics Provider Manual section 212.600 is updated to state that providers of orthotic appliances may be reimbursed for diabetic shoes or shoe inserts when prescribed by a beneficiary's provider who has prescribing authority, if within the scope of practice, and the need is documented as medically necessary.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services Office of Policy and Rules, 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 can 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 July 27, 2026. 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.

A public hearing will be held online by remote access. Public comments may be submitted at the hearing.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Policy and Rules at 501-320-6428. The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. Signed Elizabeth Pitman, Director of the Division of Medical Services.

Please let the record reflect we have 0 attendees for today's public hearing. As we have no attendees this public hearing will now go off the record.