



**Contra
Costa
County**

To: Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Board of Directors
 From: Lewis T. Broschard III, Chief, Contra Costa Fire Protection District
 Date: October 12, 2021

Subject: GEMT QAF Payment to California Department of Health Care Services CY 2021 Q1-2

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Auditor-Controller, on behalf of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, to make a payment to the State of California Department of Health Care Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,232,363 for the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Quality Assurance Fee for ambulance transports provided by the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District in the months of January through June (Quarters 1-2) of 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is revenue generating for the District due to the significant number of Medi-Cal transports within the District's ambulance operating area. Medi-Cal is the second highest payer type (second to Medicare). The net revenue the District receives will be calculated by multiplying the \$220.80 per transport uplift for Medi-Cal fee-for-service and Medi-Cal managed care transports less the \$33.42 QAF the District is required to pay on all transports.

The net revenue estimate (uplift less QAF) for the District for FY 2020-21 is approximately \$2 million under the current funding and fee parameters.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY
ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD
COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **10/12/2021** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
 Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
 Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor
 Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor
 Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: October 12, 2021

, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Contact: Jackie Lorrekovich, Chief
 Admin Svcs (925) 941-3300

By: June McHuen, Deputy

cc:

BACKGROUND:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved State Plan Amendment (SPA) 18-004 authorizing the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) / Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) program in March 2019. QAF is an add-on fee used to increase Medi-Cal funding. Essentially, emergency medical transportation providers in California must pay this fee on all transports, and in return, providers receive an uplift that increases the Medi-Cal reimbursement base rate for Medi-Cal fee-for-service and managed care recipients. The GEMT/QAF program increases the historic base rate of Medi-Cal reimbursement by \$220.80 per transport. The GEMT/QAF program, therefore, increases the per transport reimbursement from the historic base rate of \$118.20 to \$339.00.

To fund this program, the State of California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) began assessing all transport providers within the State of California a fee of \$25.23 per transport effective July 1, 2018. The fee was increased to \$26.07 for FY 2019-20, to \$32.30 for FY 2020-21, and to \$33.42 for FY 2021-22. The current rate of \$33.42 in effect for FY 2021-22 is assessed on ground emergency medical transports with dates of service beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

The District received the attached invoices from DHCS on September 28, 2021. The invoices are for the period January, February, March 2021 (Quarter 1), for \$609,112.92, and April, May, June 2021 (Quarter 2), for \$623,249.58.

This request is for calendar year 2021 quarters 1 and 2 fees (for January-June 2021 transports). The payment for Q1 is due on or before October 15, 2021. State program representatives indicated there would be no exceptions and late fees may be assessed by the State for payments not received by the due date. Payments for Q2 are due November 1, 2021.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The QAF payment is mandatory for all providers (public and private) within the State. If not paid, the State can assess late payment penalties and withhold provider payments for ambulance services provided to Medi-Cal recipients.

ATTACHMENTS

2021 Q1 QAF Invoice

2021 Q2 QAF Invoice