



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

May 29, 2007

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**STANDARD AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-07
(All Districts) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve and direct the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the attached Emergency Medical Services Appropriation (EMSA) Standard Agreement to accept funds in the amount of \$9.8 million for the reimbursement of uncompensated emergency services provided by non-County physicians during Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Health Services (hereafter Director), or his designee, to approve and sign any amendments to the FY 2006-07 EMSA Standard Agreement to accept up to an additional 25% of the current contract amount, if any, and any other required EMSA reports or documents for the EMSA Standard Agreement and any amendments thereto upon review and approval by County Counsel and the Chief Administrative Office.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Execution of the EMSA Standard Agreement will enable the County of Los Angeles (County) to receive EMSA funds for reimbursement of uncompensated emergency services provided by non-County emergency medical physicians during FY 2006-07. These funds were made available through the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 1807 intended to mitigate the crisis in emergency medicine as a result of insufficient funding to cover the cost of emergency services provided to uninsured and indigent patients. Receipt of the EMSA funds will enable the County to provide some financial relief to emergency medical physicians in the County, thereby helping to ensure the continued availability of emergency medical services.

Delegation of the authority to approve and sign any amendments to the FY 2006-07 EMSA Standard Agreements, and any other required reports or documents will facilitate implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

For FY 2006-07, the State allocated a total of \$9.8 million in EMSA funds to the County. The anticipated EMSA funding is included in the Department's FY 2006-07 Final Budget. There are no net County costs.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The first EMSA Agreement was approved by your Board in FY 2000-01. Since that time, the County has entered into EMSA Agreements with the State each succeeding year.

On September 15, 2006, the California legislature enacted AB 1807 which allocates Proposition 99 Tobacco Tax funds from the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Surtax Fund (Proposition 99) to non-County emergency medical physicians to help alleviate the growing crisis confronted by emergency rooms throughout the State as a result of inadequate funding to cover the cost of emergency services provided to uninsured and indigent populations. Statewide, for FY 2006-07, the bill appropriated \$24.8 million in Proposition 99 funds through the California Healthcare for Indigents Program (CHIP) and the Rural Health Services (RHS) Program accounts to reimburse non-County physicians for uncompensated emergency services. EMSA is separate from the other CHIP and RHS Programs. The EMSA Standard Agreement covers the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

Previous EMSA Agreements between the State and the County, which set forth requirements pursuant to State law, have remained substantially similar in their terms. Based on changes in State law implementing new legislation, Senate Bill 941, effective January 1, 2006, the EMSA Agreement before your Board includes the following changes (requiring claiming modifications by the Department):

1. Limits reimbursement to Counties to actual administrative costs, not to exceed 10% of the account, as opposed to the previous flat 10% allocation.
2. Eliminates reimbursement for claims submitted for payment under the Federal Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.
3. Expands the type of medical personnel who can be reimbursed for the provision of emergency medical care to include care provided by a supervised nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
4. Changes the 50% reimbursement limit per claim to conform to the provisions of the Maddy Emergency Medical Services Fund, which requires proportional distribution of any remaining funds, in excess of any reserve amounts, to all physician claimants at fiscal year-end.

County Counsel and the Chief Administrative Office have reviewed and approved the attached Standard Agreement for EMSA Funding for FY 2006-07 and will be requested to review and approve all subsequent EMSA documents.

Original signatures of the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors are required on both copies of the attached EMSA Agreement.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

Not applicable.

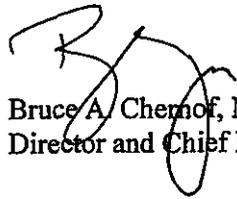
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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

EMSA funds will help to ensure continued availability of emergency medical services in the County.

When approved, this Department requires three signed copies of the Board's action.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

BAC:sd
EMSA BL.sdv.wpd

Attachments (3)

- c. Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENT

1. TYPE OF SERVICE:

Emergency Medical Services Appropriation (EMSA) for reimbursement of uncompensated emergency services provided by non-County emergency medical physicians to help ensure continued access for indigent patients in the private sector.

2. AGENCY ADDRESS AND CONTACT PERSON :

California Department of Health Services
Office of County Health Services
Attention: County Health Services Unit
MS 5202, P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413
Attention: Luis Camacho
Telephone: (916) 552-8016

3. TERM:

Effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

4. FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07, the State allocated a total of \$9.8 million in EMSA funds to the County. The anticipated EMSA funding is included in the Department of Health Services' FY 2006-07 Final Budget. There are no net County costs.

5. GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVED:

All Districts.

6. ACCOUNTABLE FOR MONITORING:

Not applicable.

7. APPROVALS:

Chief, Fiscal Services: Mark Corbet

Contracts and Grants Division: Cara O'Neill, Chief

County Counsel (approval as to form): Edward Morrissey, Senior Deputy