

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON THE ALASKA SHARP-1 STATE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM FEES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Department of Health & Social Services proposes to change regulations on the Alaska SHARP-1 state health care practitioner loan repayment program administrative fees.

The Department of Health & Social Services proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 7 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the Alaska SHARP-1 State Health Care Practitioner Loan Repayment Program, including the following:

- **7 AAC 80.030. Fees for Department Services. Fee schedule and procedures**, is proposed to be changed as follows: Adopt regulations to administer the program, including an administrative fee for each contract and fiscal agent services.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the State of Alaska, Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Rural & Community Health Systems, SHARP Program, Attn: Robert Sewell, P.O. Box 110616, Juneau, AK 99811-0616. Additionally, the Department of Health & Social Services will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 465-4101 and by electronic mail at sharp.inquiry@alaska.gov. The comments must be received not later than 5 p.m. on July 6, 2020.

You may provide oral comments relevant to the proposed action **via telephone** at the hearing to be held on June 22, 2020, **by calling 1-888-392-4560, and using the participant access code number 5818485#**. **Please note that in-person attendance will not be permitted at the hearing site because of the public health and safety concerns associated with the COVID – 19 pandemic. Please prepare to share your oral comments by telephone only.** If you call to provide oral testimony, you should be on the line **before** the hearing begins at 10:00 a.m. The Department of Health & Social Services will give priority to those who call in before 12:00 p.m. The Department of Health & Social Services may, before the hearing begins, limit the time allotted for each person providing oral testimony. The time limit may be necessary to conclude the hearing in the time provided.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Robert Sewell by e-mail at sharp.inquiry@alaska.gov or mail at State of Alaska, Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Rural & Community Health Systems, P.O. Box 110616, Juneau, AK 99811-0616. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Department of Health & Social Services will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and at <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/healthplanning/pages/sharp/default.aspx>.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Robert Sewell by electronic mail at robert.sewell@alaska.gov or phone at (907) 465-4065 not later than June 15, 2020, to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and by contacting Robert Sewell at sharp.inquiry@alaska.gov or by phone at (907) 465-4065.

A copy of material proposed for adoption by reference is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System or through the electronic link [https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=\(title:42%20section:254g-1%20edition:prelim\)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=(title:42%20section:254g-1%20edition:prelim)). A copy of material proposed for adoption by reference may be also be viewed at the agency's office at the Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Public Health, 350 Main Street, Suite 508, Juneau, AK 99801.

After the public comment period ends, the Department of Health & Social Services will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. **You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected.**

Statutory authority: AS 18.05.040; AS 44.29.020; AS 44.29.022.

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 18.05.040; AS 44.29.020; AS 44.29.022.

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: May 8, 2020.
/s/Adam Crum
Commissioner,
Department of Health & Social Services
State of Alaska.