



525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.dph.illinois.gov

TO: Hospital Administrators, Birthing Centers, Midwives, Laboratory Directors, Obstetrics and Gynecologists, Nurses and Nursing Directors, Illinois Medical Society, Illinois Primary Health Care Association, Illinois Hospital Association

FROM: Dr. Sameer Vohra, Director, Illinois Department of Public Health

SV

DATE: June 23, 2026 [Original SIREN Sent: February 19, 2026]

Dear Health Care Provider:

For sixty years, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Newborn Screening Program has played a vital role in reducing morbidity and mortality for thousands of Illinois children born with rare, life-threatening health conditions, through early diagnosis and treatment. Under the Newborn Metabolic Screening Act, 410 ILCS 240, et seq. (“NBS Act”) the Department may add health conditions to the newborn screening panel and amend the newborn screening fee when certain regulatory conditions have been met. The fee is assessed to be used for actual IDPH operational costs related to newborn screening and to support optimal health outcomes for all Illinois’ newborns.

This letter is intended to provide notice that authorization to increase the newborn screening fee has been approved by the legislature’s Joint Committee on Administrative Rules as an amendment to Administrative Rule, Title 77: Part 661 *Newborn and Infant Screening and Treatment Code*, in compliance with the NBS Act.

The increase in the fee is needed to cover an increase in IDPH Newborn Screening Program operational costs. This funding primarily supports critical onsite newborn screening operations at IDPH six days per week, including holidays. Funding also helps cover courtesy courier contracts for the urgent overnight shipment of specimens to the state laboratory, metabolic treatment formulas for infants with screening disorders who require dietary treatment, as well as grants for specialty provider clinics and local health departments. This fee increase will also help support the Newborn Screening Program’s development and implementation of novel testing for guanidinoacetate methyltransferase (GAMT) deficiency and metachromatic leukodystrophy (MLD), which are anticipated to go-live in mid-2026.

Effective July 1, 2026, the fee assessed for all newborn screening specimens received by IDPH will increase from \$128.00 to \$411.35 for each specimen submitted.

As a health care provider, your support of this program is essential, and I appreciate your past and future contributions to its success.

If you have questions about the Illinois Newborn Screening Program, please call 217-785-8101 or email DPH.NewbornScreening@illinois.gov.