

# NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

December 15, 2024

Mr. Brandon Metzler  
Clerk of the Legislature  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Subject: Recommendations for Adjusting Pharmacy Dispensing Fees

Dear Mr. Metzler:

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 68-9,111(4), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care (MLTC), provides this recommendation for adjusting pharmacy dispensing fees between completion of surveys to ensure fair and adequate reimbursement for independent pharmacies and all other pharmacies participating in the medical assistance program.

The Department recommends that the dispensing fee rates be updated consistent with legislative appropriations and intent for the years between rate updates made as a result of pharmacy dispensing fee surveys. This recommendation ensures that appropriations are consistent with Department expenditures. This approach is reasonable given that cost surveys completed every other year will account for market changes that may differ from appropriations, as prescribed in state statute.

Surveys were sent out for completion on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and are due back on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The Department will utilize appropriations for the first year, while subsequent years will be determined by the results of the surveys.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Ahern".

Matthew Ahern  
Interim Director, Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care