

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Social Services

HB Section(s): 11.770

Program Name: Physician Payments for Safety Net Hospitals

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Physician Payments for Safety Net Hospitals

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Attract and maintain quality physicians

1b. What does this program do?

This program provides enhanced physician reimbursement payments for services provided to MO HealthNet participants by certain hospitals designated as safety net hospitals. Services provided by physicians, dentists, podiatrists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse midwives, optometrists, audiologists, psychologists, and certified registered nurse anesthetists/anesthesiologist assistants not employed by the state who are actively engaged in the training of physicians when the training takes place in a safety net hospital are also eligible for enhanced physician payments. There are two entities that currently qualify as safety net hospitals--1) Truman Medical Center and 2) University of Missouri Kansas City. This program was established in July 2001 to provide a mechanism to fund enhanced payments to these safety net hospitals who traditionally see a high volume of Medicaid and uninsured patients.

Reimbursement Methodology

Enhanced physician payments are made in addition to the amount established under the MO HealthNet fee schedule. The additional payment is equal to the lower of the difference between the MO HealthNet allowable reimbursement for the service and 1) the Medicare allowable reimbursement or 2) the provider's actual charge for the service. In addition to the reimbursement methodology above, Truman Medical Center also receives an enhanced payment equal to the difference between the Medicaid allowable reimbursement for the service and the Medicare equivalent of the average commercial rate of the top three commercial payers for the service.

Additional Details

To qualify as a safety net hospital, entities must meet the following requirements as specified in 13 CSR 70-15.010(6)(B):

- Offer non-emergency obstetric services; and
- Have a Medicaid inpatient utilization rate above the state's mean or a low-income utilization rate greater than 25%; and
- Operate less than 50 licensed inpatient beds and have an unsponsored care ratio of at least 65%; or
- Operate at least 50 licensed inpatient beds, have an unsponsored care ratio of at least 65%, and an occupancy rate greater than 40%; or
- Be owned or operated by the University of Missouri Board of Curators; or
- Be a public hospital operated by Department of Mental Health.

This program is exempt from performance measures as it is payments to safety net hospitals.

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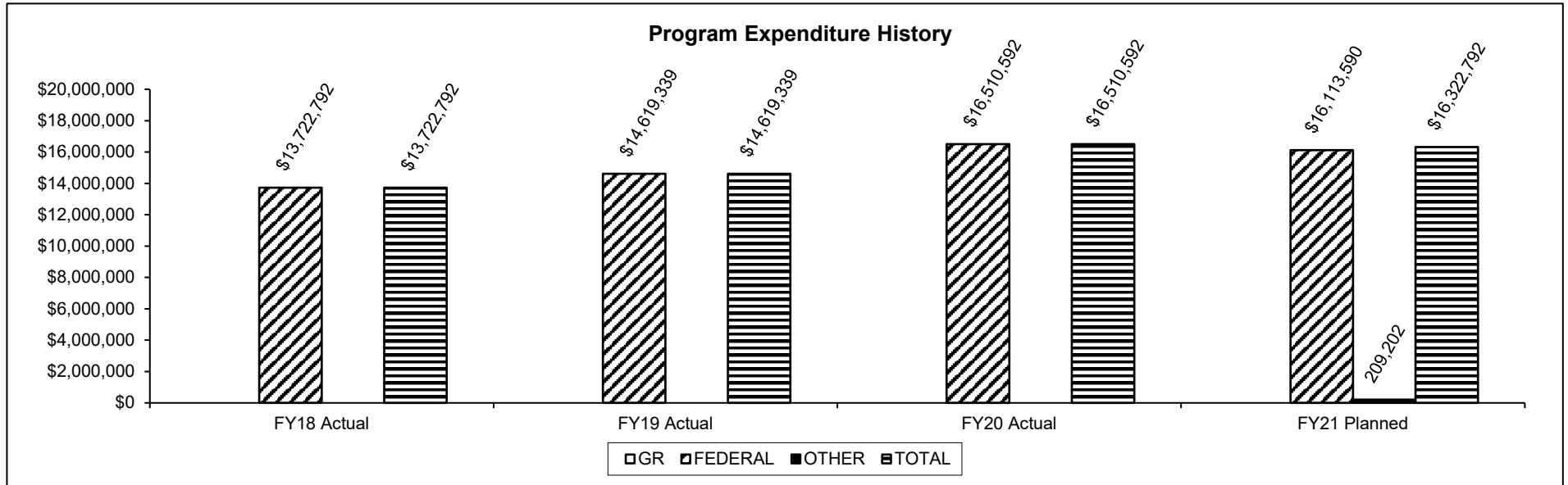
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years; planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

Intergovernmental Transfer Fund (0139)

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

State statute: Sections 208.152 and 208.153, RSMo. Federal law: Social Security Act Sections 1905(a)(1) and (2), 1923(a)-(f). Federal regulations: 42 CFR 440.10 and 440.20.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

The FMAP (Federal Medical Assistance Percentage) fluctuates annually based on state and national economic and population data, but generally the state matching requirement is around 35% and the federal match is around 65%.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No.