

CY 2026 OPPTS\ASC Proposed Rule

Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System Impact File

This file contains data used to assess the impact of the proposed CY 2026 Medicare hospital outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) on payments (including beneficiary co-payments) to hospitals and CMHCs. The data comes from various sources, including hospital cost report extracts predominantly from calendar year 2023, the outpatient provider specific file, and the IPPS Proposed Rule FY 2026 impact file for hospital inpatient operating and capital payments, in addition to CY 2024 claims data. The data is from the internal CY 2026 OPPTS proposed impact analysis. This file does not include children's and cancer hospitals, as these facilities are held harmless under 1833(t)(7)(D)(ii) of the Act and modeled payments for these providers under the OPPTS may not reflect total outpatient payments.

CY 2026 HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT
PPS PAYMENT IMPACT FILE: PROPOSED RULE ¹

Column	Title	Description
A	Provider Number	Six character Medicare provider number (CMS Certification Number). In general, the first two digits identify the state. ²
B	Provider Name	The name of the Medicare provider from OSCAR ("blank" = unknown).
C	CBSA Code	Up to five character code designating the provider's CBSA location prior to wage index reclassification.
D	Total Discounted Units	Discounted units are the total number of units after we adjust for the multiple procedure reduction of 50 percent that applies to payment for services assigned to status indicator "T" under the proposed payment system when multiple "T" status procedures are performed in the same encounter as well as terminated procedures. This field also reflects any changes in units as a result of proposed policies. For example, the units for a composite payment typically are 1. This unit field also reflects the AMA's estimates of new code utilization created for the MPFS proposed rule.
E	Rural Sole Community and Essential Access Hospitals	Identifies a Sole Community Hospital or Essential Access Hospital that has a rural geographic location and/or a rural reclassified wage index location. ³

Column	Title	Description
F	Post Reclassification Wage Index	Proposed FY 2026 inpatient hospital wage index after reclassification by the Medicare Geographic Classification Review Board (MGCRB). The wage index includes any outmigration adjustment, application of the IPPS rural floor budget neutrality adjustment on a national basis, an occupational mix adjustment, the proposed 2026 IPPS wage index changes including the 5 percent reduction cap and proposed transitional exception for certain providers and continues to use CBSAs to define labor market areas. The wage index also includes the Frontier state wage index adjustment created by section 10324 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. ⁴
G	All Rural	Identifies hospitals that are considered rural, either because of their CBSA geographic location or their reclassified wage index location. LURBAN/OURBAN= 0 RURAL=1
H	Urban/Rural Geographic Location	Identifies urban or rural status based solely on CBSA geographic location. LURBAN= Large urban area OURBAN=Other urban area RURAL= Rural area
I	Region	Based on pre-reclassification CBSA assignment NE = New England MA = Middle Atlantic SA = South Atlantic WNC = West North Central ENC = East North Central ESC = East South Central WSC = West South Central MNT = Mountain PAC = Pacific PR = Puerto Rico
J	Disproportionate Share Patient Percentage	From the FY 2026 Proposed IPPS impact file: https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/prospective-payment-systems/acute-inpatient-pps/fy-2026-ipp-pps-proposed-rule-home-page The DSH variable is based on cost report and Social Security Administration (SSA) data. ⁵
K	Outpatient Cost- to-Charge Ratio	Cost-to-charge ratios are obtained from the April 2025 outpatient provider specific file. An internally calculated CCR is used to replace zero or missing values. For CCRs greater than the upper limit of 1.9, the statewide default CCR is used. ⁶

Column	Title	Description
L	Estimated 2025 PPS Payment	Estimated total CY 2025 Medicare program and beneficiary OPps payments for the services for which CMS is able to simulate payments. These dollars include estimated CY 2025 outlier payments, the off campus PBD clinic visits policy, a wage index that includes the Frontier state wage index adjustment created by section 10324 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and a 0.5 percentage point market basket reduction as a result of the multifactor productivity adjustment.
M	Estimated 2026 PPS Payment	Estimated total CY 2026 Medicare program and beneficiary OPps payments for the services for which CMS is able to simulate payments. These dollars include estimated CY 2026 outlier payments, the proposed off campus PBD policy for clinic visits and drug administration services, a wage index that includes the Frontier state wage index adjustment created by section 10324 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, a 0.8 percentage point market basket reduction as a result of the multifactor productivity adjustment, and the proposed 340B remedy offset to the OPps conversion factor to certain providers.
N	Estimated 2026 Outlier Payment	Estimated OPps outlier payments for CY 2026 under the proposed outlier policy. ⁷
O	Number of Beds	Derived from the cost report of the provider.
P	Teaching Hospitals	Identifies major and minor teaching hospitals.
Q	Ownership	Identifies type of ownership: voluntary, proprietary, or government. 1=Voluntary 2=Proprietary 3=Government
R	CMHC	Identifies the provider as a CMHC Y=Yes N=No

Column	Title	Description
S	Provider lines	This is the total number of times a payable service (HCPCS code) appears on the 2024 claims after applying the proposed CY 2026 OPPS policy.

¹ Additional provider variables for short-term Hospitals paid under IPPS can be obtained from the FY 2026 Proposed hospital inpatient PPS Payment Impact File:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/prospective-payment-systems/acute-inpatient-pps/fy-2026-ipp-pps-proposed-rule-home-page>

² A list of SSA state codes is available in Transmittal 29, Change Request 5490, “New Number Series and State Codes for CMS Certification Numbers (formerly OSCAR Provider Numbers)” issued October 12, 2007. This is the OSCAR Provider Number and not the NPI.

³ The impact table presents impacts for rural sole community and essential access hospitals with a geographic rural location.

⁴ The frontier state wage index adjustment is described in Section II.C. of the CY 2026 OPPS/ASC Proposed Rule.

⁵ This variable is missing for hospitals not included on the FY 2026 Proposed inpatient impact file, which generally are hospitals not paid under IPPS, including long-term care, rehabilitation, or psychiatric hospitals, although some short-term acute hospitals bill OPPS and not IPPS.

⁶ The application of the statewide CCR is described in Section II.D. of the CY 2026 OPPS/ASC Proposed Rule. Statewide CCRs are discussed in Section II.D. of the CY 2026 OPPS/ASC Proposed Rule.

⁷ As discussed in section II.G. of the CY 2026 OPPS\ASC Proposed Rule preamble, we used the CCR from the April (first quarter) 2025 outpatient provider specific file (<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/prospective-payment-systems/provider-specific-data-public-use-text-format>) to model the proposed outlier threshold and estimated outlier payments for 2026 included in this impact file.