

# California GEMT/QAF Program Resources

## FAQs

### What is the difference between GEMT and GEMT QAF?

**GEMT** is a **voluntary** program providing additional funding for Medi-Cal fee-for-service transports only.

**GEMT QAF** is a **mandatory** program that levies a fee on all ground emergency transports under CPT codes A0225, A0427, A0429, A0433, and A0434. The fee is designed to fund and provide higher reimbursement for Medi-Cal fee-for-service and Medi-Cal HMO transports.

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### Can my department opt-out of the QAF program?

No. QAF is a mandatory program for all Ground Emergency Medical Transport providers.

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### Will the \$25.23 fee change and if so, when?

Yes. The current fee is scheduled to be used until June, 2019.

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### What is the fine for late QAF payments?

According to the QAF program website, interest shall be assessed on quality assurance fees not paid on the date due at the greater of 10 percent per annum or the rate at which the DHCS assesses interest on Medi-Cal program overpayments. Interest shall begin to accrue the day after the date the payment was due. If the fee payment is more than 60 days overdue, the DHCS may deduct the unpaid fee and interest owed from any Medi-Cal reimbursement payments owed to the provider until the full amount of the fee, interest, and any penalties assessed under this article are recovered. Any deduction made pursuant to this subdivision shall be made only after the DHCS gives the provider written notification. If any fee payment is more than 60 days overdue, a penalty equal to the interest charge described in paragraph (1) shall be assessed and due for each month for which the payment is not received after 60 days.

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### Will DHCS grant an extension of the payment deadline?

DHCS has not as of yet commented on this question. We suggest that you contact them directly at [QAF@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:QAF@dhcs.ca.gov) to request any extension or to clarify any questions you may still have.

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### Can Wittman Enterprises provide the backup data for the reports that are provided for the QAF submissions?

Yes. The customized QAF reporting and the associated backup data are provided at no additional cost to our clients.

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### What is our DHCS Account Number?

*This number is provided on the invoice you receive after you submit your numbers on the program submission portal.*

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**We are unable to establish an EFT for DHCS. Can we pay via check?**

*Yes. The remittance address will be on the website-generated invoice after you have submitted your reporting number.*

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**Are we able to pay via credit card?**

*The GEMT QAF program does not currently offer this option.*

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**Does DHCS have a W-9 form so we can add their profile to our financial database?**

*Please reach out to the QAF program directly to see what they are able to provide.*

*Policy Questions: [GEMTQAF@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:GEMTQAF@dhcs.ca.gov)*

*Payment Questions: [QAF@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:QAF@dhcs.ca.gov)*

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**When will we see the reimbursement from the program?**

*The current \$220.80 per qualified claim reimbursement add-on will be made in addition to what Medi-Cal is currently paying on each claim. Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal HMOs are expected to be making retroactive payments on claims with 07/01/2018 dates of service moving forward. Some of our clients have seen their Medi-Cal HMOs already making the higher payments on recent claims. Medi-Cal is expected to start processing at the higher rate in June 2019. At this time, we have not been informed how Medi-Cal/Medi-Cal HMOs are going to reprocess older claims that have already been adjudicated. The reimbursement will only be for claims using the transporting codes A0429, A0427, and A0433.*

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**Will this program be renewed for FY19-20?**

*No information has been given by DHCS as to how long the GEMT QAF program will run.*

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**Why are we being invoiced for Q1 and Q2 that are outside of the effective dates?**

*Some clients have found topical information in SB 523 (Statute 14129.2 (4) (C) (1)) that has helped them answer this question.*

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**Do we still need to submit data on the excel worksheet on future quarterly reports?**

*According to submission information from the GEMT QAF website, the submission of the online form(s) satisfies reporting requirements pursuant to SB 523 and WIC section 14129. There should be no need to submit anything else.*

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**Should we increase our billing rates to cover the QAF fees?**

*This depends on your current fee schedule and how your department and/or city usually addresses changes to fee schedules.*

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