



# WMS MEMBER NEWS

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

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## WDH - MEDICAID NEWS

### Important Changes for Specialty Formula

Wyoming Medicaid is transitioning to cover specialty infant formulas for medical reasons, as requested by the Wyoming WIC program. Here's what families and providers need to know:

- No Change for Standard Formulas: Families using Similac Advance, Sensitive, Total Comfort, or Soy Isomil can still get these through WIC as usual.
- For Children Ages 0–2: Specialty formulas are now available through Medicaid pharmacy benefits. Providers must submit a Pharmacy Prior Authorization (PA) form:

To learn more and get key contact info for assistance [CLICK HERE](#).

### Medicaid Medical Director Position Application Window Closes TODAY!



The Wyoming Department of Health is seeking a mission-oriented medical doctor to serve as its new Medicaid Medical Director. The leadership position will provide expertise in standards of care and quality of care to ensure Medicaid members can live healthy lives in Wyoming. To learn more about the position and how to apply,

[CLICK HERE](#).

## H.R. 1 - The "Big Beautiful Bill" Passage

### What Should WMS Members Expect in Medicare?

House Resolution 1 saw versions that held promise for sweeping changes to Medicare reimbursement - including long-term payment stability and much-needed updates for physicians. WMS members can expect a **temporary one-year increase of 2.5% to the Physician Fee Schedule** starting January 1, 2026. Unfortunately, the House attempts to address longstanding challenges in Medicare reimbursement did not survive the Senate process.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn how the final version of HR 1 impacts your practice and reimbursement.

#### Summary of Medicare Provisions in 2025 Reconciliation Bill

Current law (prior to enactment of reconciliation bill)	House-passed bill	Senate-passed bill (enacted into law)
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Physician Payment			
Physician Fee Schedule Conversion Factor Adjustment	<p>Medicare payment rates to physicians and other clinicians under the Physician Fee Schedule are determined in part by a scaling factor, known as the conversion factor, which is updated each year. Under current law, conversion factor updates are based on statutory factors and other budgetary requirements, and do not vary based on changes in inflation in medical practice costs.</p> <p>Beginning in 2026, the Physician Fee Schedule conversion factor is scheduled to increase by 0.25% each year for most Medicare providers.</p> <p>Beginning in 2026, Medicare physicians and other clinicians who participate in qualified Advanced Alternative Payment Models (A-APMs) are scheduled to receive financial incentives in the form of higher annual increases to the Physician Fee Schedule conversion factor (0.75% vs. 0.25% for all other providers). This provision is meant to replace the annual bonus payments currently offered to qualified A-APM participants, which are due to expire in January 2027.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replaces the current schedule of annual statutory increases to the Physician Fee Schedule conversion factor with annual increases tied to the Medicare Economic Index (MEI), a measure of inflation in medical practice costs. The conversion factor will be increased by 75% of the projected increase in the MEI in 2026, and by 10% of the projected increase in the MEI in all subsequent years.</li><li>• Applies the same schedule for annual MEI-based conversion factor increases to all Medicare providers, regardless of participation in A-APMs.</li></ul> <p>Effective Date: January 1, 2026.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides a temporary one-year increase of 2.5% to the Physician Fee Schedule conversion factor for all services furnished between January 1, 2026 and January 1, 2027.</li></ul>

Above is extracted from a Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) report and analysis.[CLICK HERE](#) to view the full report.

## NONCOMPETE CLAUSE RESTRICTIONS

### Noncompete Agreement Restrictions Effective July 1



Husch Blackwell partner and WMS legal counsel, [Nick Healey, JD](#), in partnership with [Shawna Ruetz, JD](#), and [Kristina Abdalla, JD](#), help physicians understand what changes are coming to what Wyoming employers can do under new law restricting non-compete agreements taking effect July 1, 2025.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read Husch Blackwell's insights article about how these new non-compete restrictions will impact physicians.

## BCBS LAWSUIT AND SETTLEMENT

### Claim Submission Due July 29, 2025

The November 2024 Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) lawsuit impacting physicians resulted in a \$2.8 billion antitrust settlement. The lawsuit, initiated in 2012, alleged that BCBS colluded to limit competition and lower reimbursement.

Physicians who provided healthcare services and submitted claims to BCBS between July 24, 2008, and October 4, 2024, are eligible to submit claims for a share of the settlement. Approximately \$160 million of the full settlement was specifically allocated for professional providers.

The settlement aims to address antitrust violations and promote fair competition within the healthcare industry. It is expected to bring changes to how BCBS operates, potentially leading to more competitive pricing and improved services for providers and patients.

[BCBS Provider Settlement Website](#)



## WMS UPDATES AND NEWS

### Physician of the Year - Call for Nominations

WMS is seeking nominations from the membership for this year's Physician of the Year. The recipients

deserving of this award go above and beyond in their personal and professional lives within Wyoming's communities.

This is a special honor that the Wyoming Medical Society is proud to facilitate. Please consider nominating a deserving doctor for the 2025 Physician of the Year Award. The Board of Trustees will make the final selection and the awardee will be recognized at this year's annual conference in Laramie, November 14-15.

Congratulations, again, to our past recipients. View a listing of all previous awardees by [CLICKING HERE](#).

To submit a nomination please complete the online nomination form linked below.

[2025 Physician of the Year Nomination Form](#)

# MARTHA HAGEMAN, MD

## 2024 Physician of the Year





Wyoming Medical Society  
*Advocating for doctors and their patients since 1903*

### WWAMI Admissions Committee Opening

The WWAMI Admissions Committee is excited to announce an open position. If you are interested in applying, we encourage you to do so. Please make sure to submit your application by the deadline of **August 11, 2025**.

The Wyoming Admissions Committee consists of four Wyoming-based physicians who are appointed to staggered three-year terms, with the possibility of serving an additional three years.

Committee members are tasked with interviewing Wyoming applicants who meet specific academic qualifications for medical school admission. These interviews take place over one week in January, February, or early March. The interview process begins on Sunday afternoon and concludes the following Friday afternoon. If needed, the University of Washington covers travel and lodging expenses during the interview period. [MORE INFORMATION](#)

[WWAMI Admissions Application Form](#)

### WMS Annual Meeting

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION** for the 2025 WMS Annual Meeting is now open at a special discounted rate! Don't miss the chance to connect with colleagues and friends at this year's gathering.

This year's program features inspiring speakers, the much-anticipated President's Reception, and the Gala, all taking place during a stunning autumn weekend in scenic Laramie.

[EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION](#)



# Celebrate the Art of Medicine

## WMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GALA

November 14-15, 2025 in Laramie



Thank You Friends of WMS

Thank You

Friends of WMS

Without your support we couldn't advocate for Wyoming doctors and their patients







**Trauma-informed** means we understand the effects of early adversity on the brain and body and the echoes across lifespan.

**Trauma-informed care** is how we respond.

**Wyoming Chapter**  
OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

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