

FAQS on Assessment Rate Setting Cycle Change (effective November 2018)

What has changed in the assessment rate setting process?

The assessment rate is now set on a State Fiscal Year (SFY) cycle instead of the calendar year. The SFY is July 1 – June 30. This is the only change.

When is the assessment rate set?

April, the CDC pediatric vaccine contract is updated annually on April 1. By setting the rate in April, current pricing can be used to better estimate a majority of vaccine costs.

When does the new assessment rate go into effect?

July 1st. The new assessment rate will be applied to the assessment collection due on August 15, for the measuring months of April, May and June.

How many assessment payments are due each year?

There remain 4 payments due in the SFY. Assessment collections are due on August 15, November 15, February 15, and May 15, for the measuring months of April, May, and June; July, August, and September; October, November, and December; and January, February, March, respectively.

Why the change?

Setting the assessment rate on the SFY cycle brings the process into alignment with the spending and budgeting of the Vermont Dept. of Health's immunization program. This alignment should lead to greater stability in the rate with more actual expenses and fewer projected expenses used in the assessment rate setting process.

What must payers do differently?

Nothing. The assessments are still due quarterly on the same date. The new assessment rate will still automatically appear in the assessment reporting system. Payers will continue to self-report covered lives and the system will generate a remittance form for use in submitting payments. See FAQ A22 for more on how to submit payments.