

March 15, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Since July 1, 2014, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (Iowa HHS), the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa (SHL), and the University of Iowa Stead Family Department of Pediatrics at the Stead Family Children's Hospital of Iowa have provided comprehensive newborn blood spot screening (NBS) services for Iowa newborns through the Iowa Newborn Screening Program (INSP), for a fee of \$122.

Effective July 1, 2023, the fee for INSP services will increase to \$162. Iowa HHS and SHL have collaboratively determined the fee necessary to cover program expenses. This fee increase is warranted because in the ensuing time since the fee was last updated, new conditions have been added to the newborn screening panel, requiring the purchase of new testing instruments and materials related to the testing for the new conditions. In addition, expenses for testing supplies, staffing, and the courier service have increased exponentially over the past 9 years.

The Iowa Newborn Screening Program provides:

- Comprehensive screening of Iowa newborns for 35 primary and 21 secondary congenital or inherited conditions.
- Laboratory testing services 365 days a year. This includes expanded hours of operation at the SHL newborn screening laboratory in Ankeny, Iowa that allow for processing of specimens throughout the night so that actionable results are available in a timely manner.
- Short-term Follow-up services 365 days a year. Nursing staff and medical consultants at the University of Iowa Stead Family Department of Pediatrics provide follow-up on all abnormal newborn screening results, working with the baby's health care provider and the family to assure the baby is receiving timely, appropriate care based on their newborn screening results.
- Courier services to transport NBS specimens from collection site to the SHL NBS laboratory in Ankeny 365 days per year. In most cases, specimens picked up by early afternoon in Iowa will be delivered to the SHL NBS laboratory by 9:00 pm the same day where processing will begin immediately.
- Support services that ensure testing that meets high quality assurance standards and follow-up services that exceed the national standard of care.

In the future, SHL and Iowa HHS will review expenses and the newborn screening fee on an annual basis.

We look forward to our ongoing collaboration with you in this important, lifesaving work of newborn screening.

Thank you for your continuing efforts to protect the health of Iowa's newborns.



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