

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments
Major Medical Centers
(LAC 50:V.2715)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts LAC 50:V.2715 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) (1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amended the provisions governing disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments in order to re-establish the provisions governing payments to public, non-rural community hospitals (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 10). The department now proposes to adopt provisions to establish a qualification criteria and DSH payment methodology for major medical centers located in the central and northern areas of Louisiana.

This action is being taken to promote the public health and welfare of uninsured individuals, and ensure their continued access to health services by assuring that hospitals are

adequately reimbursed for furnishing uncompensated care. It is estimated that the implementation of this Emergency Rule will increase expenditures in the Medicaid Program by \$50,000,000 for state fiscal year 2016-17.

Effective June 30, 2016, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts provisions governing DSH payments to major medical centers located in the central and northern areas of Louisiana.

TITLE 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part V. Hospital Services

Subpart 3. Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments

Chapter 27. Qualifying Hospitals

§2715 Major Medical Centers Located in Central and Northern Areas of the State

A. Effective for dates of service on or after June 30, 2016, hospitals qualifying for payments as major medical centers located in the central and northern areas of the state shall meet the following criteria:

1. be a private, non-rural hospital located in Department of Health administrative regions 6, 7, or 8;

2. have at least 200 inpatient beds as reported on the Medicare/Medicaid cost report, Worksheet S-3, column 2, lines 1 - 18, for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

For qualification purposes, inpatient beds shall exclude nursery and Medicare designated distinct part psychiatric unit beds;

3. does not qualify as a Louisiana low-income academic hospital under the provisions of §3101; and

4. such qualifying hospital (or its affiliate) does have a memorandum of understanding executed on or after June 30, 2016 with Louisiana State University - School of Medicine, the purpose of which is to maintain and improve access to quality care for Medicaid patients in connection with the expansion of Medicaid in the state through the promotion, expansion, and support of graduate medical education and training.

B. Payment Methodology. Effective for dates of service on or after June 30, 2016, each qualifying hospital shall be paid a DSH adjustment payment which is the pro rata amount calculated by dividing their hospital specific allowable uncompensated care costs by the total allowable uncompensated care costs for all hospitals qualifying under this category and multiplying by the funding appropriated by the Louisiana Legislature in the applicable state fiscal year for this category of hospitals.

1. Costs, patient specific data and documentation that qualifying criteria is met shall be submitted in a format specified by the department.

2. Costs and lengths of stay shall be reviewed by the department for reasonableness before payments are made.

3. Aggregate DSH payments for hospitals that receive payment from this category, and any other DSH category, shall

not exceed the hospital's specific DSH limit. If payments calculated under this methodology would cause a hospital's aggregate DSH payment to exceed the limit, the payment from this category shall be capped at the hospital's specific DSH limit.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 42:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Jen Steele, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Steele is responsible for responding to all inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary