



**Louisiana Department of Health  
Health Plan Advisory 20-18  
August 31, 2020**

**Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Personal Care Services (PCS) Update for Hurricane Laura**

The Louisiana Department of Health is temporarily changing the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Personal Care Services (PCS) program policies to allow services to be provided outside of a person's geographic region or out of state.

The following circumstances must apply:

- The beneficiary has evacuated or temporarily relocated to a location outside of the provider's licensed region due to Hurricane Laura;
- The beneficiary must have been a client of the home and community-based services provider (HCBS) as of August 27, 2020, with an approved plan of care;
- The beneficiary's existing caregiver(s) go with the beneficiary or provide services to the beneficiary at the beneficiary's temporary location;
- The HCBS is responsible for ensuring that all essential care and services (as identified on the plan of care) are provided to the beneficiary (including having sufficient staff and back-up caregivers available to provide services); and
- The HCBS does not interfere with a beneficiary's right to choose a provider of his/her choice (that is, if a beneficiary wants to elect a new HCBS in the area where the beneficiary relocates, then the HCBS will facilitate that selection).

Please note that this temporary allowance of services will expire on September 30, 2020. MCOs must distribute this [HCBS Memo](#) to all EPSDT PCS providers.