Louisiana Department of Health
Informational Bulletin 26-20
November 2, 2026

Dental Office Third-Party Anesthesia Administration

Louisiana Medicaid will cover in-office general anesthesia when administered by a Louisiana-licensed anesthesiologist, certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), or dental anesthesiologist. This benefit expansion increases access to medically necessary dental care. Coverage applies to beneficiaries enrolled in the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT), Adult Waiver, and Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) Dental Programs.

Provider Requirements

All dental providers must comply with the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry administrative rules governing third-party anesthesia in dental offices. Additionally, all third-party medical anesthesia providers must comply with Louisiana statutes governing professional authority, supervision and scope of practice related to the administration of anesthetics.

For Medicaid reimbursement:

- The treating dentist must hold a moderate sedation permit;
- To treat EPSDT enrollees under age 13, the dentist must hold a pediatric moderate sedation certification permit; and
- The third-party Louisiana licensed anesthesia provider must complete dental benefit program manager (DBPM) credentialing, Louisiana Medicaid enrollment, and have experience administering anesthesia for procedures involving the oral cavity.

Prior Authorization and Reimbursement

The treating dentist is responsible for demonstrating medical necessity and obtaining DBPM prior authorization for each individual case involving third-party anesthesia administration, using CDT D9999.

Coverage is limited to anesthesia services provided by participating DBPM anesthesia providers. The applicable services limit is two services per enrollee per year.

Reimbursement for third-party sedation will be issued to the treating provider at the flat rate published on the Louisiana Medicaid Dental Fee Schedule.