

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

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

**Professional Services
Reimbursement Methodology
(LAC 50:IX.8305, 8505, 15113, 15133, and XIX.4334)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts LAC 50:IX.8305, 8505, 15113, 15133, and XIX.4334 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. 49:962 and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

Effective July 1, 2025, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing hereby adopts a new methodology for Medicaid managed care organization reimbursement and fee-for-service reimbursement rates. These higher reimbursement rates may incentivize more providers to participate in Medicaid. Medicaid physician payment rates have historically been significantly lower than those of Medicare, often averaging around two-thirds of the Medicare rate. This disparity can lead to access issues, as some providers may be reluctant to accept Medicaid patients due to the lower reimbursement rates. This Emergency Rule is being adopted to better align Medicaid rates

to Medicare rates, which will encourage providers to enroll in Medicaid. This rulemaking action will improve the quality of health care offered to Medicaid beneficiaries, thus improving the health outcomes of Medicaid beneficiaries throughout Louisiana.

Title 50

PUBLIC HEALTH—MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part IX. Professional Services Program

Subpart 7. Immunizations

Chapter 83. Children's Immunizations

§8305. Reimbursement Methodology

A. - B. ...

C. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, reimbursement for the administration of childhood and adolescent vaccines shall be set at 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Region 99 Medicare allowable fee, or billed charges, whichever is the lesser amount.

C.1. - D. ...

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 and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 35:71 (January 2009), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services

Financing and the Office of Public Health, LR 39:96 (January 2013), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 41:1289 (July 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing LR 47:49 (January 2021), LR 47:887 (July 2021), LR 51:

Chapter 85. Adult Immunizations

§8505. Reimbursement Methodology

A. - D. ...

E. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the reimbursement for adult vaccine administration (beneficiaries age 19 and older) shall be set at 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Region 99 Medicare allowable fee or billed charges, whichever is the lesser amount.

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 and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Public Health, LR 39:97 (January 2013), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 41:1290 (July 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing LR 47:50 (January 2021), LR 47:887 (July 2021), LR 51:

Subpart 15. Reimbursement

Chapter 151. Reimbursement Methodology

Subchapter B. Physician Services

§15113. Reimbursement Methodology

A. - N.1.b.ii. ...

O. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the Medicaid fee shall be set at 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Region 99 Medicare allowable fee for both current and newly added procedure codes.

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 and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:1252 (June 2010), amended LR 36:2282 (October 2010), LR 37:904 (March 2011), LR 39:3300, 3301 (December 2013), LR 41:541 (March 2015), LR 41:1119 (June 2015), LR 41:1291 (July 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:62 (January 2018), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:62 (January 2018), LR 47:477 (April 2021), LR 47:887 (July 2021), LR 48:1100 (April 2022), LR 51:71 (January 2025), LR 51:

Subchapter D. Anesthesia Services

§15133. Formula-Based Reimbursement

A. - F. ...

G. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the Medicaid fee for formula-based anesthesia services

rendered by a physician shall be 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Medicare Region 99 allowable for services rendered to Medicaid recipients.

H. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the reimbursement for formula-based anesthesia services rendered by a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) shall be 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Medicare Region 99 allowable for services rendered to Medicaid recipients.

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 and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:1251 (June 2010), amended LR 36:2282 (October 2010), LR 39:1781 (July 2013), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 51:

§15135. Flat Fee Reimbursement

A. - G. ...

H. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the flat fee for reimbursement of maternity related anesthesia services shall be 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Medicare Region 99 allowable for services rendered to Medicaid recipients. If there is no equivalent Medicare fee, an alternate methodology may be used.

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 and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:1251 (June 2010), amended LR 36:1251 (June 2010), LR 39:1781 (July 2013), LR 51:

Part XIX. Other Services

Subpart 3. Laboratory and Radiology Services

Chapter 43. Reimbursement

§4334. Radiology Services Reimbursement Methodology

A. - B. ...

C. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2025, the Medicaid fee for radiology services shall be set at 85 percent of the 2024 Louisiana Region 99 Medicare allowable fee. This applies to both current and newly added procedure codes.

1. Repealed.

D. - I. ...

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 and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 35:1897 (September 2009), amended LR 36:1248 (June 2010), LR 36:2563 (November 2010), LR 37:3029 (October 2011), LR 39:1284 (May 2013), LR 41:539 (March 2015), amended by the Department of

Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:283 (February 2018), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 47:252 (February 2021), LR 47:1638 (November 2021), LR 51:

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.

Kimberly Sullivan, JD, Bureau of Health Services Financing, is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Bruce D. Greenstein

Secretary