

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health
Bureau Health Service Financing**

**Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices
Reimbursement Methodology
(LAC 50:XVII.501)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:XVII.501 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, proposes to amend the current reimbursement methodology by implementing an increase to rates for prosthetic and orthotic devices. This adjustment is intended to address historically reduced reimbursement levels and support continued access to care. In compliance with House Bill 1 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session this proposed Rule will provide an increase in reimbursement to private providers of durable medical equipment to align rates with the Medicare Program.

The rule text below has been drafted utilizing plain language principles to ensure clarity and accessibility for all users. It has also been reviewed and tested for compliance with web accessibility standards.

Title 50

Public Health-Medical Assistance

Part XVII. Prosthetics and Orthotics

Subpart I General Provisions

Chapter 5. Reimbursement

§501. Reimbursement Methodology

A. - G.1. ...

H. Effective for dates of service on or after [INSERT DATE OF PROMULGATION], reimbursement for the following shall be increased by forty percent of the rate in effect at the time of publication of this rule and shall not adjust automatically if the base rate changes thereafter:

1. orthotics & devices, and prosthetics (HCPCS L0013 through L9900);
2. diabetic shoes, fitting, and modifications (HCPCS A5500 through A5514); and
3. compression garments (A6501 through A6513).

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 31:1597 (July 2005), amended LR 34:881 (May 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 35:1903 (September

2009), repromulgated LR 36:521 (March 2010), amended LR 36:1253 (June 2010), LR 36:2567 (November 2010), LR 39:2770 (October 2013), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 52:

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.

Family Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972, as it will increase provider reimbursement and can increase participation and improve access to services for beneficiaries.

Poverty Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development

as described in R.S. 49:973, as it can increase participation and improve access to services for beneficiaries.

Small Business Analysis

In compliance with the Small Business Protection Act, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses.

Provider Impact Statement

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, but will increase reimbursement to private providers of durable medical equipment to align rates with the Medicare Program.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tangela Womack, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. Womack is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is July 20, 2026.

Public Hearing

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on July 10, 2026. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:961(B)(1) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on July 30, 2026, in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after July 10, 2026. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing.

Bruce D. Greenstein

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices

Reimbursement Methodology

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased state costs of approximately \$1,608,362 for FY 26-27, (includes \$249 for the administrative expense of

promulgation of the proposed rule and final rule), \$1,919,464 for FY 27-28, and \$1,919,464 for FY 28-29.

In compliance with House Bill 1 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session, this proposed rule will increase reimbursement to private providers of durable medical equipment to align reimbursement rates for orthotic and prosthetic devices and services with the Medicare Program rates. This proposed rule amends the current reimbursement methodology by implementing an increase of 40% to rates for orthotic and prosthetic devices and services in effect at the time of publication of this rule and shall not adjust automatically if the base rate changes thereafter.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will increase federal revenue collections by approximately \$3,426,928 for FY 26-27 (includes \$248 for the administrative expense of promulgation of the proposed rule and final rule), \$4,122,287 for FY 27-28, and \$4,122,287 for FY 28-29.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY
AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS
(Summary)

This proposed rule will increase reimbursement to private providers of durable medical equipment and potentially increase provider participation and access to services for beneficiaries. It is anticipated that this proposed rule will increase provider reimbursement for prosthetic and orthotic devices by approximately \$5,034,793 for FY 26-27, \$6,041,751 for FY 27-28, and \$6,041,751 for FY 28-29.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This proposed rule has no known effect on competition and employment.