

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing  
and  
Office of Aging and Adult Services**

**Home and Community-Based Services Waivers  
Community Choices Waiver  
Electronic Visit Verification  
(LAC 50:XXI.9305)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Aging and Adult Services propose to adopt LAC 50:XXI.9305 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 and the Office of Aging and Adult Services, through collaborative efforts, provide enhanced long-term services and supports to individuals who are elderly or have a disability through the Community Choices Waiver program.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Aging and Adult Services promulgated an Emergency Rule which adopted provisions governing the Community Choices Waiver which mandate that providers of personal assistant services must utilize the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for

automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 41, Number 3). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the April 1, 2015 Emergency Rule.

**Title 50**

**PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**Part XXI. Home and Community Based Services Waivers**

**Subpart 7. Community Choices Waiver**

**Chapter 93. Provider Responsibilities**

**§9305. Electronic Visit Verification**

A. Community Choices Waiver providers shall use the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services.

B. Reimbursement shall only be made to providers with documented use of the EVV system. The services that require use of the EVV system will be published in the Community Choices Waiver provider manual.

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 and the Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 43:

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.

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 by assuring that Community Choices Waiver participants receive needed services in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

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 by allowing working family members to maintain stable employment due to the improved delivery of waiver services which may reduce the financial burden on families.

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 no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

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 inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 118, Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views or arguments either orally or in writing. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is 4:30 p.m. on the next business day following the public hearing.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person

Preparing

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Address: Baton Rouge, LA

Rule Title:

Home and Community-Based  
Services Waivers  
Community Choices Waiver  
Electronic Visit Verification

Date Rule Takes Effect: April 1, 2015

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. The following summary statements, based on the attached worksheets, will be published in the Louisiana Register with the proposed agency rule.

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

*It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in estimated state general fund programmatic savings of approximately \$66,118 for FY 16-17 and \$66,369 for FY 17-18 and \$68,360 for FY 18-19. It is anticipated that \$432 (\$216 SGF and \$216 FED) will be expended in FY 16-17 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed Rule and the final Rule. The numbers reflected above are based on a blended Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate of 62.26 percent in FY 16-17 and 63.34 percent in FY 17-18.*

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

*It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will reduce federal revenue collections by approximately \$109,217 for FY 16-17 and \$114,671 for FY 17-18 and \$118,111 for FY 18-19. It is anticipated that \$216 will be collected in FY 16-17 for the federal share of the expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule. The numbers reflected above are based on a blended Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate of 62.26 percent in FY 16-17 and 63.34 percent in FY 17-18.*

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

*This proposed Rule continues the provisions of the April 1, 2015 Emergency Rule which adopted provisions governing the Community Choices Waiver program which mandated that providers of personal assistant services must utilize the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will reduce expenditures for the Community Choices Waiver program by approximately \$175,767 for FY 16-17 and \$181,040 for FY 17-18 and \$186,471 for FY 18-19.*

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

*This rule has no known effect on competition. However, the reduction in payments may adversely impact the financial standing of providers and could possibly cause a reduction in employment opportunities.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Agency Head  
or Designee

*Evan Brasel, Staff Director*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative Fiscal Officer  
or Designee

Jen Steele, Medicaid Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed name and Title of  
Agency Head or Designee

*12/8/16*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

*Bhaskar Ford*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DHH/BHSF Budget Head

*12/09/16*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

*This proposed Rule continues the provisions of the April 1, 2015 Emergency Rule which adopted provisions governing the Community Choices Waiver program which mandated that providers of personal assistant services must utilize the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services.*

- B. Summarize the circumstances that require this action. If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

*The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Aging and Adult Services, through collaborative efforts, provide enhanced long-term services and supports to individuals who are elderly or have a disability through the Community Choices Waiver program.*

*The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Aging and Adult Services promulgated an Emergency Rule which adopted provisions governing the Community Choices Waiver which mandate that providers of personal assistant services must utilize the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services (Louisiana Register, Volume 41, Number 3). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the April 1, 2015 Emergency Rule.*

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

*No. This proposed rule will result in a reduction in programmatic expenditures for the Community Choices Waiver program by approximately \$175,335 for FY 16-17, \$181,040 for FY 17-18 and \$186,471 for FY 18-19. In FY 16-17, \$432 will be expended for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.*

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) \_\_\_ If yes, attach documentation.

(b) \_\_\_ If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

I. A. COST OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase or (decrease) in cost to implement the proposed action?

COST	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
PERSONAL SERVICES			
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$432	\$0	\$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
OTHER CHARGES	(\$175,767)	(\$181,040)	(\$186,471)
REPAIR & CONSTR.			
POSITIONS (#)			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$175,335)</b>	<b>(\$181,040)</b>	<b>(\$186,471)</b>

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

*The expenses reflected above are the estimated reductions in expenditures for the Community Choices Waiver program. In FY 16-17, \$432 will be spent for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.*

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

Source	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
STATE GENERAL FUND	(\$66,118)	(\$66,369)	(\$68,360)
SELF-GENERATED			
FEDERAL FUND	(\$109,217)	(\$114,671)	(\$118,111)
OTHER (Specify)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$175,335)</b>	<b>(\$181,040)</b>	<b>(\$186,471)</b>

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

*Yes, sufficient funds are available to implement this rule.*

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THIS PROPOSED ACTION.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustment in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

*This proposed rule has no known impact on local governmental units.*



FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit that will be affected by these costs or savings.

*There is no known impact on the sources of local governmental unit funding.*

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

- A. What increase or (decrease) in revenues can be expected from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED			
RESTRICTED FUNDS*			
FEDERAL FUNDS	(\$109,217)	(\$114,671)	(\$118,111)
LOCAL FUNDS			
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$109,217)</b>	<b>(\$114,671)</b>	<b>(\$118,111)</b>

*\*Specify the particular fund being impacted*

- B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenue shown in "A". Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

*The expenses reflected above are the estimated reductions in the federal share of expenditures for the Community Choices Waiver program. In FY 16-17, \$216 will be collected for the federal share of the administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.*

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effects on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.)

*This proposed Rule continues the provisions of the April 1, 2015 Emergency Rule which adopted provisions governing the Community Choices Waiver program which mandated that providers of personal assistant services must utilize the electronic visit verification (EVV) system designated by the department for automated scheduling, time and attendance tracking and billing for certain home and community-based services.*

- B. Also, provide an estimate of any revenue impact resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

*It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will reduce expenditures in the Community Choices Waiver program by approximately \$175,767 for FY 16-17 and \$181,040 for FY 17-18 and \$186,471 for FY 18-19.*

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

*This rule has no known effect on competition. However, the reduction in payments may adversely impact the financial standing of providers and could possibly cause a reduction in employment opportunities.*