

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health and Hospitals  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

State Children's Health Insurance Program  
Coverage of Prenatal Care Services  
(LAC 50:III.20301 and 20303)

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:III.20301 and 20303 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XXI 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 and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated a Rule which adopted provisions to expand coverage to children under Title XXI of the Social Security Act by implementing a stand-alone State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to provide coverage of prenatal care services to low-income, non-citizen women and to clarify the service limits and prior authorization criteria for SCHIP prenatal care services (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 35, Number 1).

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions of the January 20, 2009 Rule in order to include Medicaid coverage for the unborn child(ren) of any pregnant woman with income between 138 percent and 214 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40,

Number 1). The department subsequently promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the December 31, 2013 Emergency Rule in order to clarify these provisions (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 4). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the April 20, 2014 Emergency Rule.

**Title 50**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**  
**Part III. Eligibility**  
**Subpart 11. State Children's Health Insurance Program**

**Chapter 203. Prenatal Care Services**

**§20301. General Provisions**

A. ...

B. Effective December 31, 2013, coverage of SCHIP

prenatal care services shall be expanded to include any pregnant woman with income between 138 percent and 214 percent of the FPL.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XXI 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 35:72 (January 2009), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 41:

**§20303. Eligibility Criteria**

A. - B.1. ...

C. Recipients must have family income at or below ~~200~~214 percent of the FPL.

D. - E. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XXI 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 35:72 (January 2009), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 41:

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 may have a positive impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972 by increasing recipient access to prenatal care services that will promote better health outcomes for babies.

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 may 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 increasing access to prenatal care services which is expected to improve medical conditions and reduce health care costs to 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 J. Ruth Kennedy, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Kennedy is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 173, 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.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary