

NOTICE OF INTENT
Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics
Community Health Worker Services Alternative Payment Methodology
(LAC 50:XI.10703 and 16703)

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:XI.10703 and §16703 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 provisions governing reimbursement for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) in order to establish an alternative payment methodology which will allow reimbursement outside of the current prospective payment system rate for community health worker services provided in FQHCs and RHCs.

Title 50
PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
Part XI. Clinic Services
Subpart 13. Federally Qualified Health Centers

Chapter 107. Reimbursement Methodology

§10703. Alternate Payment Methodology

A. - G. ...

H. Reserved.

I. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2022, the Medicaid Program shall reimburse for community health worker services through a separate payment outside the PPS rate.

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 34:1033 (June 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:1894 (October 2018), LR 44:2162 (December 2018), LR 45:434 (March 2019), amended LR 46:182 (February 2020), LR 47:

Subpart 15. Rural Health Clinics

Chapter 167. Reimbursement Methodology

§16703. Alternate Payment Methodology

A. - G. ...

H. Reserved.

I. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2022, the Medicaid Program shall reimburse for community health worker services through a separate payment outside the PPS rate.

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 34:1036 (June 2008), amended by the

Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:1903 (October 2018), LR 44:2168 (December 2018), LR 45:435 (March 2019), amended LR 46:185 (February 2020), LR 47:

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 no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

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 no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, 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, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq.

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 no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications and no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170, but may enhance the ability of some providers to provide the same level of service since this proposed Rule establish an alternative payment methodology for services they already render when provided outside the prospective payment system fee currently paid.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments to Patrick Gillies, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Mr. Gillies is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on October 30, 2021.

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 October 12, 2021. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on October 28, 2021 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after October 12, 2021. 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. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage, which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement: Veronica Dent Dept.: Health
Phone: 342-3238 Office: Bureau of Health Services Financing
Return Address: PO Box 91030 Rule Title: Federally Qualified Health Centers and
Baton Rouge, LA Rural Health Clinics
Community Health Worker Services
Alternative Payment Methodology
Date Rule Takes Effect: December 20, 2021

SUMMARY
(Use complete sentences)

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 STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND 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 increased state costs of approximately \$60,941 for FY 21-22, \$184,496 for FY 22-23 and \$255,834 for FY 23-24. It is anticipated that \$540 (\$270 SGF and \$270 FED) will be expended in FY 21-22 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

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 \$196,110 for FY 21-22, \$601,091 for FY 22-23, and \$833,512 for FY 23-24. It is anticipated that \$270 will be collected in FY 21-22 for the federal share of the expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

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

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing reimbursement for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) in order to establish an alternative payment methodology which will allow reimbursement outside of the current prospective payment system rate for community health worker services provided in FQHCs and RHCs. This proposed rule will be beneficial to recipients since it allows them to receive enhanced services from FQHCs and RHCs. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased payments to FQHCs and RHCs of approximately \$256,511 for FY 21-22, \$785,587 for FY 22-23, and \$1,089,346 for FY 23-24 for the provision of community health worker services.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This rule has no known effect on competition and employment.



Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Patrick Gillies, Medicaid Executive Director
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

9/9/2021
Date of Signature



Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

9/9/21
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 deliberation 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 amends the provisions governing reimbursement for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) in order to establish an alternative payment methodology which will allow reimbursement outside of the current prospective payment system rate for community health worker services provided in FQHCs and RHCs.

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

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing reimbursement for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) in order to establish an alternative payment methodology which will allow reimbursement outside of the current prospective payment system rate for community health worker services provided in FQHCs and RHCs.

- 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.

Yes. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased programmatic costs of approximately \$257,051 for FY 21-22, \$785,587 for FY 22-23, and \$1,089,346 for FY 23-24. In FY 21-22, \$540 is included 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) _____ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

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

Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature allocated funds to the Medical Vendor Program for payments to providers and the operation of the Medicaid Program, and thereby, authorizes the expenditure of these funds. Implementation of this proposed rule will be beneficial since it establishes an alternative payment methodology which allows federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics to be reimbursed for providing enhanced services to Medicaid recipients.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

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

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

COSTS	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
Personal Services			
Operating Expenses	\$540	\$0	\$0
Professional Services			
Other Charges	\$256,511	\$785,587	\$1,089,346
Equipment			
Major Repairs & Constr.			
TOTAL	\$257,051	\$785,587	\$1,089,346
POSITIONS (#)			

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 increases in expenditures in the Medicaid program. In FY 21-22, \$540 is included 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 22	FY 23	FY 24
State General Fund	\$60,941	\$184,496	\$255,834
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated			
Federal Funds	\$196,110	\$601,091	\$833,512
Other (Specify)			
TOTAL	\$257,051	\$785,587	\$1,089,346

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 THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments 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.

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

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

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

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

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

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
State General Fund			
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated Funds*			
Federal Funds	\$196,110	\$601,091	\$833,512
Local Funds			
TOTAL	\$196,110	\$601,091	\$833,512

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

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

The amounts reflected above are the estimated increase in the federal share of programmatic expenditures for the Medicaid program. In FY 21-22, \$270 will be collected for the federal share of the administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

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

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing reimbursement for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) in order to establish an alternative payment methodology which will allow reimbursement outside of the current prospective payment system rate for community health worker services provided in FQHCs and RHCs. This proposed rule will be beneficial to recipients since it allows them to receive enhanced services from FQHCs and RHCs.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased payments to FQHCs and RHCs of approximately \$256,511 for FY 21-22, \$785,587 for FY 22-23, and \$1,089,346 for FY 23-24 for the provision of community health worker services.

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 and employment.