



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of the Secretary

March 10, 2026

**Via Statutorily Prescribed Email**

**To:** The Honorable Patrick McMath, Chairman, Senate Health & Welfare Committee  
The Honorable Dustin Miller, Chairman, House Health & Welfare Committee

**From:** Bruce D. Greenstein  
Secretary

**Re:** Second Report to Proposed Amendments to LAC 50:XXXIII.Chapters 23 and 63 –  
Children and Adult Mental Health Services

Pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, the Louisiana Department of Health, submits its second report regarding the Children and Adult Mental Health Services, LAC 50:XXXIII.Chapters 23 and 63.

A Notice of Intent on the proposed amendments was published in the January 20, 2026 issue of the *Louisiana Register* (LR 52:132). No written comments were received and there was no request for a public hearing during the notice period. Because there were no requests for a public hearing, one was not held for these proposed amendments. Additionally, no substantive changes were made to the proposed amendments since the report is provided for in R.S. 49:966B-C.

Unless otherwise directed, the Department anticipates adopting the January 20, 2026 Notice of Intent when it is published as a final rule in the April 20, 2026 issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

Please contact Missy Graves, at [missy.graves@la.gov](mailto:missy.graves@la.gov), if you have any questions or require additional information about this matter.

**Cc:** Seth J. Gold, Medicaid Director, LDH  
Kimberly Sullivan, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Medicaid, LDH  
Tangela Womack, Medicaid Deputy Director, LDH  
Catherine Brindley, Medicaid Program Manager, LDH  
Bethany Blackson, Governmental Relations and Community Partnerships  
Director, LDH  
Andrea Trantham, Editor, *Louisiana Administrative Code*, Office of the State  
Register

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

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

Children and Adult Mental Health Services  
(LAC 50:XXXIII.2303 and 6307)

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:XXXIII. Chapters 23 and 63 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 children and adult mental health services to expand the provider types authorized to render therapeutic services. This proposed Rule would allow Medicaid to pay for therapy services provided by psychology interns in approved American Psychiatric Association internship programs, as well as by provisionally licensed psychologists. The department proposes to promulgate this Rule in accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution 10 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session to help improve health outcomes for people who rely on Medicaid. By allowing more types of practitioners to offer services, this proposed Rule will make it easier for the public to access mental health care and may reduce wait times. It would also create more training opportunities for future psychologists in Louisiana.

The proposed 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 XXXIII. Behavioral Health Services**

**Subpart 3. Children’s Mental Health Services**

**Chapter 23. Services**

**§2303. Covered Services**

A. The following behavioral health services shall be reimbursed under the Medicaid Program:

1. therapeutic services delivered by one of the following practitioners:

- a. psychiatrist;
- b. licensed mental health professional;
- c. provisionally licensed professional counselor;
- d. provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist;
- e. licensed master social worker;
- f. psychology intern from an American Psychological Association approved internship program; or
- g. provisionally licensed psychologist.

A.2. - B.5. ...

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 38:364 (February 2012), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, LR 41:2359 (November 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, LR 44:1892 (October 2018), LR 50:983 (July 2024), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 52:

### **Subpart 7. Adult Mental Health Services**

#### **Chapter 63. Services**

##### **§6307. Covered Services**

A. The following mental health services shall be reimbursed under the Medicaid Program:

1. therapeutic services delivered by one of the following practitioners:

- a. psychiatrist;
- b. licensed mental health professional;
- c. provisionally licensed professional counselor;
- d. provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist;
- e. licensed master social worker;
- f. psychology intern from an American Psychological Association approved internship program; or
- g. provisionally licensed psychologist.

A.2. - B.3. ...

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 38:359 (February 2012), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, LR 42:61 (January 2016), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, LR 44:1015 (June 2018), LR 46:795 (June 2020), repromulgated LR 46:952 (July 2020), amended LR 46:1680 (December 2020), LR 48:1098 (April 2022), LR 50:984 (July 2024), 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 may have a positive impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S.

49:972. This proposed Rule may improve access to mental health therapeutic services.

#### **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 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 may improve staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, since it increases the number of available practitioners. This proposed Rule is not expected to have fiscal impact to providers and may improve the provider's level of service as described in HCR 170.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tangelia 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 February 19, 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 February 9, 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 February 26, 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 February 9, 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: Children and Adult Mental Health Services**

#### **I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)**

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$639 (\$320 SGF and \$319 FED) will be expended in FY 25-26

for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing children and adult mental health services to expand the provider types authorized to render therapeutic services. This proposed rule would allow Medicaid to pay for therapy services provided by psychology interns in approved American Psychiatric Association internship programs, as well as by provisionally licensed psychologists. The department proposes to promulgate this rule in accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution 10 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session to help improve health outcomes for people who rely on Medicaid. By allowing more types of practitioners to offer services, this proposed rule will make it easier for the public to access mental health care and may reduce wait times. It would also create more training opportunities for future psychologists in Louisiana.

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

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will have no effect on revenue collections other than the federal share of the promulgation costs for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$319 will be collected in FY 25-26 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 OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing children and adult mental health services to expand the provider types authorized to render therapeutic services. This proposed rule would allow Medicaid to pay for therapy services provided by psychology interns in approved American Psychiatric Association internship programs, as well as by provisionally licensed psychologists. The department proposes to promulgate this rule in accordance with Senate Concurrent Resolution 10 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session to help improve health outcomes for people who rely on Medicaid. By allowing more types of practitioners to offer services, this proposed rule will make it easier for the public to access mental health care and may reduce wait times. It would also create more training opportunities for future psychologists in Louisiana. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no fiscal impact on providers or small businesses in FY 25-26, FY 26-27, and FY 27-28.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This proposed rule is anticipated to have a positive effect on competition and employment by allowing these providers to render services that help retain these professionals in Louisiana and attract new ones, potentially increasing employment opportunities across both the public and private sectors.

Seth Gold  
Medicaid Executive Director  
2601#051

Alan M. Boxberger  
Legislative Fiscal Officer  
Legislative Fiscal Office



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of the Secretary

March 10, 2026

**Via Statutorily Prescribed Email**

**To:** The Honorable Patrick McMath, Chairman, Senate Health & Welfare Committee  
The Honorable Dustin Miller, Chairman, House Health & Welfare Committee

**From:** Bruce D. Greenstein  
Secretary

**Re:** Second Report to Proposed Amendments to LAC 50:VII.32917 – Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities – Reimbursement Methodology

Pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, the Louisiana Department of Health, submits its second report regarding the Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities – Reimbursement Methodology, LAC 50:VII.32917.

A Notice of Intent on the proposed amendments was published in the January 20, 2026 issue of the *Louisiana Register* (LR 52:134). No written comments were received and there was no request for a public hearing during the notice period. Because there were no requests for a public hearing, one was not held for these proposed amendments. Additionally, no substantive changes were made to the proposed amendments since the report is provided for in R.S. 49:966B-C.

Unless otherwise directed, the Department anticipates adopting the January 20, 2026 Notice of Intent when it is published as a final rule in the April 20, 2026 issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

Please contact Enrika S. LaCour, at [enrika.lacour@la.gov](mailto:enrika.lacour@la.gov), if you have any questions or require additional information about this matter.

**Cc:** Seth J. Gold, Medicaid Director, LDH  
Kimberly Sullivan, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Medicaid, LDH  
Tangela Womack, Medicaid Deputy Director, LDH  
Catherine Brindley, Medicaid Program Manager, LDH  
Bethany Blackson, Governmental Relations and Community Partnerships Director, LDH  
Andrea Trantham, Editor, *Louisiana Administrative Code*, Office of the State Register

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:VII.32917 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.

In May 2025, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated a rule authorizing a one-time lump sum payment to privately owned or operated intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID) that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024. The department now proposes to amend the provisions governing reimbursement methodology for ICFs/IID to remove the deadline for sending out payments and remove language that limited which facilities were eligible to those active and enrolled on the date of payment. This will provide the department with greater flexibility in distributing payments and will allow facilities to qualify based on the original eligibility date of July 1, 2024.

The proposed 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 VII. Long Term Care**

**Subpart 3. Intermediate Care Facilities for  
Persons with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Chapter 329. Reimbursement Methodology**

**Subchapter A. Non-State Facilities**

**§32917. Dedicated Program Funding Pool Payments**

A. - C.1.f. ...

D. Effective for providers, active and Medicaid certified as of July 1, 2024, a one-time lump sum payment will be made to non-state, non-public ICFs/IID.

1. Methodology

a. - c. ...

d. - e. Repealed.

f. ...

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, LR 46:28 (January 2020), amended LR 48:2972 (December 2022), LR 51:667 (May 2025), 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 no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

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

Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with  
Intellectual Disabilities—Reimbursement Methodology  
(LAC 50:VII.32917)

**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 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 may have a minimal 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 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.

**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 February 19, 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 February 9, 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 February 26, 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 February 9, 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: Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons  
with Intellectual Disabilities—Reimbursement**

**Methodology**

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

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$497 (\$249 SGF and \$248 FED) will be expended in FY 25-26 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to remove the deadline for sending out lump-sum payments to facilities that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024, and to remove language limiting eligible facilities to those that were active and enrolled in Medicaid on the date of payment. This will provide the department with greater flexibility in distributing payments and will allow facilities to qualify based on the original eligibility date of July 1, 2024.

The lump sum payment made in FY 25 will be redistributed among providers based on the language revision above. There will no impact to the state as a result of the proposed rule, as payments are strictly being reallocated between eligible providers.

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

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will have no effect on state or local governmental revenue collections for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$248 will be collected in FY 25-26 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 OR NONGOVERNMENTAL  
GROUPS (Summary)**

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to remove the deadline for sending out lump-sum payments to facilities that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024, and to remove language limiting eligible facilities to those that were active and enrolled in Medicaid on the date of payment. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule may have a minimal impact on small businesses.

**IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT  
(Summary)**

There is no anticipated impact on competition and employment as a result of this proposed rule.

Seth Gold  
Medicaid Executive Director  
2601#050

Alan M. Boxberger  
Legislative Fiscal Officer  
Legislative Fiscal Office