

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments
Louisiana Low-Income Academic Hospitals
(LAC 50:V.Chapter 31)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts LAC 50:V.Chapter 31 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated Emergency Rules which amended the provisions governing disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments to hospitals participating in public-private partnerships in the south and north Louisiana areas (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Numbers 7 and 10). As a result of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' disapproval of the corresponding State Plan Amendments, the department determined that it was necessary to repeal the provisions of the July 6, 2013 and October 1, 2013 Emergency Rules governing DSH payments to the hospitals

participating in the south and north Louisiana area public-private partnerships.

The department promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions governing DSH payments in order to establish payments to Louisiana Low-Income Academic Hospitals (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 6). The department subsequently promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions of the May 24, 2014 Emergency Rule to clarify the provisions governing the payment methodology to Louisiana Low-Income Academic Hospitals (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 9). This Emergency Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the September 20, 2014 Emergency Rule. This action is being taken to promote the health and welfare of Medicaid recipients by maintaining recipient access to much needed hospital services.

Effective September 18, 2015 the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions governing DSH payments to Low-Income Academic Hospitals.

TITLE 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part V. Hospital Services

Subpart 3. Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments

Chapter 31. Louisiana Low-Income Academic Hospitals

§3101. Qualifying Criteria

A. Hospitals Located Outside of the Lake Charles
Metropolitan Statistical Area

1. Effective for dates of service on or after May 24, 2014, a hospital may qualify for this category by:

a. being a private acute care general hospital that is located outside of the Lake Charles metropolitan statistical area (MSA);

b. having uninsured patient utilization, as measured by allowable uninsured inpatient and outpatient charges, greater than 20 percent. Qualification shall be based on uninsured utilization data per the prior state fiscal year date of service time period; and

c. maintaining at least 15 unweighted intern and resident full-time equivalent positions, as reported on the Medicare Cost Report Worksheet E-4, line 6.

B. Hospitals Located In the Lake Charles Metropolitan
Statistical Area

1. Effective for dates of service on or after May 24, 2014, a hospital may qualify for this category by:

a. being a private acute care general hospital that is located in the Lake Charles MSA;

b. having uninsured patient utilization, as measured by allowable uninsured inpatient and outpatient charges, greater than 10 percent. To determine qualification in state fiscal year 2014, the first six month dates of service

time period (July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013) shall be used. In subsequent state fiscal years, qualification shall be based on uninsured utilization data per the prior state fiscal year date of service time period; and

c. maintaining at least 20 unweighted intern and resident full-time equivalent positions, as reported on the Medicare Cost Report Worksheet E-4, line 6.

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 41:

§3103. Payment Methodology

A. Each qualifying hospital shall be paid DSH adjustment payments equal to 100 percent of allowable hospital specific uncompensated care costs subject to the Appropriations Act. DSH payments to qualifying hospitals shall not exceed the disproportionate share limits as defined in Section 1923(g)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act for the state fiscal year to which the payment is applicable.

B. Payment Calculation

1. For the initial year's payment calculation, each qualifying hospital shall submit interim actual cost data calculated utilizing Medicaid allowable cost report principles, along with actual Medicaid and uninsured patient charge data.

Annual Medicaid costs shortfalls and unreimbursed uninsured patient costs are determined based on review and analysis of these submissions.

2. For subsequent year's payment calculations, the most recent Medicaid filed cost report along with actual Medicaid and uninsured patient charge data annualized from the most recent calendar year completed quarter is utilized to calculate hospital specific uncompensated care costs.

C. The department shall review cost data, charge data, lengths of stay and Medicaid claims data per the Medicaid Management and Information Systems (MMIS) for reasonableness before payments are made.

D. The first payment of each fiscal year will be made by October 15 and will be 80 percent of the annual calculated uncompensated care costs. The remainder of the payment will be made by June 30 of each year.

1. Reconciliation of these payments to actual hospital specific uncompensated care costs will be made when the cost report(s) covering the actual dates of service from the state fiscal year are filed and reviewed.

2. Additional payments or recoupments, as needed, shall be made after the finalization of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) mandated DSH audit for the state fiscal year.

E. No payment under this Section is dependent on any agreement or arrangement for providers or related entities to donate money or services to a governmental entity.

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 41:

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 all inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Kathy H. Kliebert
Secretary