

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

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

**Pharmacy Benefits Management Program
State Supplemental Rebate Agreement Program
(LAC 50:XXIX.Chapter 11)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts LAC 50:XXIX.Chapter 11 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 provides Medicaid coverage of prescription drugs through its Pharmacy Benefits Management Program. The department amended the provisions governing the Pharmacy Benefits Management Program in order to establish provisions for the Medicaid Program's participation in The Optimal PDL \$olution (TOP\$) State Supplemental Rebate Agreement Program which is a multi-state Medicaid state supplemental drug rebate pooling initiative (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Number 10). This program allows states to leverage their pharmaceutical purchasing power as a group to achieve more supplemental rebates

than could be achieved independently. It is anticipated that this program will lower the net cost of brand drugs and the overall dollars spent on pharmacy benefits. The department promulgated an Emergency Rule to assure compliance with the technical requirements of R.S. 49:953, and to continue the provisions of the October 1, 2013 Emergency Rule governing the Pharmacy Benefits Management Program which established provisions for the Medicaid Program's participation in The Optimal PDL Solution (TOP\$) State Supplemental Rebate Agreement Program (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 3). This Emergency Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the February 22, 2014 Emergency Rule. This action is being taken to avoid a budget deficit in the medical assistance programs.

Effective February 18, 2016, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions governing the Medicaid coverage of prescription drugs to establish provisions for participation in TOP\$ State Supplemental Rebate Agreement Program.

Title 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part XXIX. Pharmacy

Chapter 11. State Supplemental Rebate Agreement Program

§1101. General Provisions

A. Effective October 1, 2013, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing hereby establishes provisions for participation in The Optimal PDL Solution (TOP\$) State Supplemental Rebate Agreement (SRA) Program. TOP\$ is a multi-state Medicaid state supplemental drug rebate pooling initiative approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and administered by Provider Synergies, L.L.C/Magellan Medicaid Administration. The purpose of this program is to allow states the opportunity to leverage their pharmaceutical purchasing power as a group to achieve more supplemental rebates and discounts from prescription drug companies than could be achieved independently.

B. Pursuant to R.S. 46:153.3, the department shall enter into a contractual agreement with Provider Synergies to participate in TOP\$. Provider Synergies/Magellan Medicaid Administration will act on the department's behalf to provide the necessary administration services relative to this agreement for the provision of state supplemental drug rebate contracting and preferred drug list administration services.

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 42:

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

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary