

John Bel Edwards  
GOVERNOR



Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH  
SECRETARY

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

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

January 20, 2017

Bill Brooks  
Associate Regional Administrator  
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health  
DHHS/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
1301 Young Street, Room #833  
Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Mr. Brooks:

RE: Louisiana Title XIX State Plan  
Transmittal No. 17-0004

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed Louisiana Title XIX State Plan material.

I recommend this material for adoption and inclusion in the body of the State Plan.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rebekah E. Gee", is written over a circular blue ink stamp. The stamp contains the word "Approved" and a signature.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH  
Secretary

Attachments (3)

REG:JS:JH

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

**FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION**

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:

**17-0004**

2. STATE

**Louisiana**

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE  
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

**January 1, 2017**

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):

☐ NEW STATE PLAN

☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN

☒ AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:

**42 CFR 447, Subpart F**

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:

a. FFY 2017

\$1755.30

b. FFY 2018

\$2413.52

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 7c**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 7.c(1)**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 8e, 8f and 8f(1)**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, 10l(1)(c)**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, 10l(1)(d)**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 14a, Page 2**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 16, Page 2**

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN  
SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable):

**SAME (TN 13-02)**  
**SAME (TN 11-08)**  
**SAME (TN 14-0037)**  
**SAME (TN 12-04)**  
**NONE – NEW PAGE**  
**SAME (TN 10-73)**  
**SAME (TN 10-73)**

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: **The SPA proposes to revise the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for inpatient hospital services to increase the Medicaid reimbursement rates paid to non-rural, non-state hospitals.**

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):

☐ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT

☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED

☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

☒ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

**The Governor does not review state plan material.**

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:

13. TYPED NAME:

**Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH**

14. TITLE:

**Secretary**

15. DATE SUBMITTED:

**January 20, 2017**

16. RETURN TO:

**Jen Steele, Medicaid Director**  
**State of Louisiana**  
**Department of Health**  
**1201 Capitol Access Road**  
**P.O. Box 91030**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030**

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**

17. DATE RECEIVED:

18. DATE APPROVED:

**PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED**

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:

21. TYPED NAME:

22. TITLE:

23. REMARKS:

LA TITLE XIX SPA  
TRANSMITTAL #: 17-0004  
TITLE: Inpatient Hospital Services NR, NS Reimbursement Rate Increase  
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2017

FISCAL IMPACT:  
Increase

	year	% inc.	fed. match	# mos	range of mos.	dollars
1st SFY	2017			6 January 1, 2017 - June 2017		\$1,860,328
2nd SFY	2018	3.0%		12 July 2017 - June 2018		\$3,832,276
3rd SFY	2019	3.0%		12 July 2018 - June 2019		\$3,947,244

\*#mos-Months remaining in fiscal year

Total Increase in Cost FFY 2017  
SFY 2017 \$1,860,328 for 6 months January 1, 2017 - June 2017 \$1,860,328

SFY 2018 \$3,832,276 for 12 months July 2017 - June 2018  
\$3,832,276 / 12 X 3 July 2018 - September 2018  
= \$958,069  
\$2,818,397

FFP (FFY 2017 ) = \$2,818,397 X 62.28% = \$1,755,298  
Total Increase in Cost FFY 2018  
SFY 2018 \$3,832,276 for 12 months July 2017 - June 2018  
\$3,832,276 / 12 X 9 October 2018 - June 2019  
= \$2,874,207

SFY 2019 \$3,947,244 for 12 months July 2018 - June 2019  
\$3,947,244 / 12 X 3 July 2019 - September 2019  
= \$986,811  
\$3,861,018

FFP (FFY 2018 )= \$3,861,018 X 62.51% = \$2,413,522



STATE OF LOUISIANA

PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT  
HOSPITAL CARE

---

2. Qualifying NICU Level III regional services with current per diem rates that are less than 85 percent of the NICU Level III regional specialty group rate shall have their per diem rates adjusted to equal 85 percent of the specialty group rate.
3. Qualifying PICU Level I services with current per diem rates that are less than 77 percent of the PICU Level I specialty peer group rate shall have their per diem rates adjusted to equal 77 percent of the specialty peer group rate.
4. Qualifying PICU Level II services with current per diem rates that are less than the PICU Level II specialty peer group rate shall have their per diem rates adjusted to equal 100 percent of the specialty group rate.

Effective for dates of service on or after February 3, 2010, the inpatient per diem rate paid to private (non-rural, non-state) acute care hospitals, including long term hospitals, shall be reduced by 5 percent of the per diem rate on file as of February 2, 2010.

Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the inpatient per diem rate paid to private (non-rural, non-state) acute care hospitals, including long term hospitals, shall be reduced by 4.6 percent of the per diem rate on file as of July 31, 2010.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the inpatient per diem rate paid to private (non-rural, non-state) acute care hospitals, including long term hospitals, shall be reduced by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2010.

Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2012, the inpatient per diem rate paid to private (non-rural, non-state) acute care hospitals, including long term hospitals, shall be reduced by 3.7 percent of the per diem rate on file as of July 31, 2012.

Effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2013, the inpatient per diem rate paid to private (non-rural, non-state) acute care hospitals, including long term hospitals, shall be reduced by 1 percent of the per diem on file as of January 31, 2013.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the inpatient per diem rate paid to acute care hospitals, including long-term hospitals, shall be increased by 7.03 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016. Small rural hospitals and Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center shall be exempt from this rate increase.

**NICU Rate Adjustment**

Effective for dates of service on or after March 1, 2011, the per diem rates for Medicaid inpatient services rendered by NICU Level III and NICU Level III regional units, recognized by the Department as such on December 31, 2010, shall be adjusted to include an increase that varies based on the following five tiers:



STATE OF LOUISIANA

PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT  
HOSPITAL CARE

---

Tier 1. The qualifying hospital's average percentage exceeds 10 percent, the additional per diem increase shall be \$601.98;

Tier 2. The qualifying hospital's average percentage is less than or equal to 10 percent, but exceeds 5 percent, the additional per diem increase shall be \$624.66;

Tier 3. The qualifying hospital's average percentage is less than or equal to 5 percent, but exceeds 1.5 percent, the additional per diem increase shall be \$419.83;

Tier 4. The qualifying hospital's average percentage is less than or equal to 1.5 percent, but greater than 0 percent, and the hospital received greater than .25 percent of the outlier payments for dates of service in state fiscal year (SFY) 2008 and SFY 2009 and calendar year 2010, the additional per diem increase shall be \$263.33; or

Tier 5. The qualifying hospital received less than 25 percent, but greater than 0 percent of the outlier payments for dates of service in SFY 2008 and SFY 2009 and calendar year 2010, the additional per diem increase shall be \$35.

**Tier Placement Criteria**

Placement into a tier will be determined by the average of a hospital's percentage of paid NICU Medicaid days for SFY 2010 dates of service to the total of all qualifying hospitals' paid NICU days for the same time period, and its percentage of NICU patient outlier payments made as of December 31, 2010 for dates of service in SFY 2008 and SFY 2009 and calendar year 2010 to the total NICU outlier payments made to all qualifying hospitals for these same time periods.

1. This average shall be weighted to provide that each hospital's percentage of paid NICU days will comprise 25 percent of this average, while the percentage of outlier payments will comprise 75 percent.
2. In order to qualify for Tiers 1 through 4, a hospital must have received at least .25 percent of outlier payments in SFY 2008, SFY 2009, and calendar year 2010.
3. SFY 2010 is used as the base period to determine the allocation of NICU and PICU outlier payments for hospitals having both NICU and PICU units.
4. If the daily paid outlier amount per paid NICU day for any hospital is greater than the mean plus one standard deviation of the same calculation for all NICU Level III and NICU Level III regional hospitals, then the basis for calculating the hospital's percentage of NICU patient outlier payments shall be to substitute a payment amount equal to the highest daily paid outlier amount of any hospital not exceeding this limit, multiplied by the exceeding hospital's paid NICU days for SFY 2010, to take the place of the hospital's actual paid outlier amount.

The Department shall evaluate all rates and tiers two years after implementation.

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1902(A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

---

**11. Reimbursement for In-State Children's Specialty Hospitals**

a. Qualifications

In order to qualify to receive Medicaid reimbursement as an in-state children's specialty hospital, a non-rural, non-state acute care hospital must meet the following criteria. The hospital must:

- (1) be recognized by Medicare as a prospective payment system (PPS) exempt children's specialty hospital;
- (2) not qualify for Medicare disproportionate share hospital payments; and
- (3) have a Louisiana Medicaid inpatient days utilization rate greater than the mean plus two standard deviations of the Medicaid utilization rates for all hospitals in the state receiving Medicaid payments.

b. Reimbursement Methodology

Effective for dates of service on or after October 4, 2014, hospitals that meet the above qualifications shall be eligible for outlier payments.

Qualifying and receiving reimbursement as a children's specialty hospital shall not preclude these hospitals from participation in the Medicaid Program under the high Medicaid or graduate medical education supplemental payments provisions.

Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the following children's specialty hospitals services:

(1) Routine Pediatric Inpatient Services

For dates of service on or after October 4, 2014, payment shall be made per a prospective per diem rate that is 81.1 percent of the routine pediatric inpatient cost per day as calculated per the "as filed" fiscal year end cost report ending during SFY 2014. The "as filed" cost report will be reviewed by the department for accuracy prior to determination of the final per diem rate.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the inpatient per diem rates paid to children's specialty hospitals for acute care shall be increased by 7.03 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016.



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE**

---

(2) Carve-Out Specialty Services

Carve-out specialty services are rendered by neonatal intensive care units, pediatric intensive care units, burn units and include transplants.

Neonatal Intensive Care Units, Pediatric Intensive Care Units, and Burn Units

For dates of service on or after October 4, 2014, payment for neonatal intensive care units, pediatric intensive care units, and burn units shall be made per prospective per diem rates that are 84.5 percent of the cost per day for each service as calculated per the "as filed" fiscal year end cost report ending during SFY 2014. The "as filed" cost report will be reviewed by the department for accuracy prior to determination of the final per diem rate.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the inpatient per diem rates paid to neonatal intensive care units, pediatric intensive care units and burn units' services shall be increased by 7.03 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016.

Transplants

Payment shall be the lesser of costs or the per diem limitation for each type of transplant. The base period per diem limitation amounts shall be calculated using the allowable inpatient cost per day for each type of transplant per the cost reporting period which ended in SFY 2009. The target rate shall be inflated using the update factors published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) beginning with the cost reporting periods starting on or after January 1, 2010.

For dates of service on or after September 1, 2009, payment shall be the lesser of the allowable inpatient costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days for the period for each type of transplant multiplied times the per diem limitation for the period.

Effective for dates of service on or after February 3, 2010, the rates to children's specialty hospitals shall be reduced by 5 percent. Final payment shall be the lesser of allowable inpatient acute care costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days as specified for the period, multiplied by 95 percent of the target rate per diem limitation as specified for the period.



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE**

---

Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the rates paid to children's specialty hospitals shall be reduced by 4.6 percent. Final payment shall be the lesser of allowable inpatient acute care costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days as specified for the period, multiplied by 90.63 percent of the target rate per diem limitation as specified for the period.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the rates paid to children's specialty hospitals shall be reduced by 2 percent. Final payment shall be the lesser of allowable inpatient acute care costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days as specified for the period multiplied by 88.82 percent of the target rate per diem limitation as specified for the period

Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2012, the per diem rates paid to children's specialty hospitals shall be reduced by 3.7 percent. Final payment shall be the lesser of allowable inpatient acute care costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days as specified for the period, multiplied by 85.53 percent of the target rate per diem limitation as specified for the period.

Effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2013, the per diem rates paid to children's specialty hospitals shall be reduced by 1 percent. Final payment shall be the lesser of allowable inpatient acute care costs as determined by the cost report or the Medicaid days as specified for the period, multiplied by 84.67 percent of the target rate per diem limitation as specified for the period.

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1902(A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

11. Effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state distinct part psychiatric units shall be increased by 3 percent of the rate on file.
12. Effective for dates of service on or after February 3, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state distinct part psychiatric units shall be reduced by 5 percent of the rate on file as of February 2, 2010.
13. Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state distinct part psychiatric units shall be reduced by 4.6 percent of the rate on file as of July 31, 2010.
14. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state distinct part psychiatric units shall be reduced by 2 percent of the rate on file as of December 31, 2010.
15. Effective for dates of service on or after February 10, 2012, a Medicaid enrolled non-state acute care hospital that enters into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health to provide inpatient psychiatric hospital services to Medicaid and uninsured patients, and which also assumes operation and management of a state owned and formerly state operated hospital distinct part psychiatric unit, shall be paid a per diem rate of \$581.11 per day.
16. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state distinct part psychiatric units within non-rural, non-state acute care hospitals shall be increased by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided under a section 15 of this part and Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center shall be exempt from this rate increase.

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1902(A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

G. **Transplant Services**

Routine operating costs and ancillary charges associated with an approved transplant are carved out of the hospital's cost report. Reimbursement is limited to the lesser of cost or the hospital-specific per diem limitation for each type of transplant. Cost is defined as the hospital-specific ratio of cost to charges from the base period multiplied by the covered charges for the specific transplant type.

Per diem limitation is calculated by deriving the hospital's per diem for the transplant type from the hospital's base period trended forward using the Medicare target rate percentage for PPS-exempt hospitals each year.

The base period is the cost reporting period for the hospital fiscal year ending September 30, 1983 through August 31, 1984 or the first cost report filed subsequently that contains costs for that type of transplant.



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1902(A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

- e. Effective for dates of service on or after February 20, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 3.5 percent of the rate on file as of February 19, 2009.
  - f. Effective for dates of service on or after August 4, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 5.8 percent of the rate on file as of August 3, 2009.
  - g. Effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be increased by 3 percent of the rate on file.
  - h. Effective for dates of service on or after February 3, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 5 percent of the per diem rate on file as of February 2, 2010.
  - i. Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 4.6 percent of the per diem rate on file as of July 31, 2010.
  - j. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2010.
  - k. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be increased by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided by state owned and operated hospitals shall be exempt from this rate increase.
2. Provisions for Disproportionate Share Payments
- a. Effective for services provided on or after July 1, 1988, hospitals qualifying as disproportionate share providers shall have payment adjustment factors applied in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Section D.
  - b. Disproportionate share payments cumulative for all DSH payments under the pools or any other DSH payment methodology shall not exceed the federal disproportionate share state allotment for each federal fiscal year established under Public Law 102-234.

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

---

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1902(A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

---

- e. Effective for dates of service on or after February 20, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 3.5 percent of the rate on file as of February 19, 2009.
  - f. Effective for dates of service on or after August 4, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 5.8 percent of the rate on file as of August 3, 2009.
  - g. Effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2009, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be increased by 3 percent of the rate on file.
  - h. Effective for dates of service on or after February 3, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 5 percent of the per diem rate on file as of February 2, 2010.
  - i. Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 4.6 percent of the per diem rate on file as of July 31, 2010.
  - j. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free standing psychiatric hospitals shall be reduced by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2010.
  - k. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals shall be increased by 2 percent of the per diem rate on file as of December 31, 2016. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided by state owned and operated hospitals shall be exempt from this rate increase.
2. Provisions for Disproportionate Share Payments
- a. Effective for services provided on or after July 1, 1988, hospitals qualifying as disproportionate share providers shall have payment adjustment factors applied in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Section D.
  - b. Disproportionate share payments cumulative for all DSH payments under the pools or any other DSH payment methodology shall not exceed the federal disproportionate share state allotment for each federal fiscal year established under Public Law 102-234.