



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

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

October 23, 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

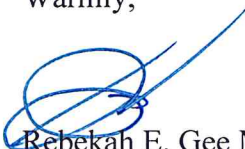
Dear Mr. Brooks:

RE: Louisiana Title XIX State Plan  
Transmittal No. 17-0023

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,



Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH  
Secretary

Attachments (3)

REG:JS:MJ

**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:

**17-0023**

2. STATE

**Louisiana**

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

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

**January 1, 2018**

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 C**

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:

a. FFY **2018** **\$2,820,746**  
b. FFY **2019** **\$4,564,550**

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 2**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 7c and 7.c(1)**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, Page 7c(1)a**  
**Attachment 4.19-A, Item 1, 10l(1)(c)**  
**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 PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN  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 96-40)**  
**Same (TN 17-0004)**  
**None – New Page**  
**Same (TN 17-0004)**  
**Same (TN 17-0004)**  
**Same (TN 17-0004)**

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: **The SPA proposes to amend the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for inpatient hospital services to increase the Medicaid reimbursement rates paid to qualifying non-rural, non-state hospitals and to establish provisions for reimbursement to free-standing rehabilitation 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:

**October 23, 2017**

16. RETURN TO:

**Jen Steele, Medicaid Director**  
**State of Louisiana**  
**Department of Health**  
**628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**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 #: 17-0023  
TITLE: Inpatient Hospital Services – NR, NS – Reimbursement Rate Increase  
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2018

FISCAL IMPACT:  
Increase

year	% inc.	fed. match	*# mos	range of mos.	dollars
1st SFY 2018			6	January 2018 - June 2018	\$2,650,500
2nd SFY 2019			12	July 2018 - June 2019	\$7,113,473
3rd SFY 2020			12	July 2019 - June 2020	\$7,326,877

\*#mos-Months remaining in fiscal year

Total Increase Cost FFY 2018 for 6 months January 2018 - June 2018 \$2,650,500

SFY 2019 for 12 months July 2018- June 2019  
\$7,113,473 / 12 X 3 months July 2018 - September 2018 = \$1,778,368  
\$4,428,868

Total Increase Cost FFY 2019 for 12 months July 2018- June 2019  
\$7,113,473 / 12 X 9 months October 2018 - June 2019 = \$5,335,105  
FFP (FFY 2018 ) = \$4,428,868 X 63.69% = \$2,820,746

SFY 2020 for 12 months July 2019 - June 2020  
\$7,326,877 / 12 X 3 months July 2019 - September 2019 = \$1,831,719  
\$7,166,824  
FFP (FFY 2019 ) = \$7,166,824 X 63.69% = \$4,564,550

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

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

- B. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 1994, Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient hospital services in a non-state operated hospital will be made according to prospective per diem rates for various peer groups of hospitals/units.

Exception: Reimbursement for the following specialty units differs from the methodology in Item B, and each is calculated using a unique methodology as described in the specified letter location under Section I. Costs for these units are carved out of the costs for the general or specialty hospitals, and used to calculate rates specific to these units:

Hospital/Unit Type	Item
Distinct Part Psychiatric Units	F
Transplant Units	G
Head Injury Neurological Rehabilitation Care Units	H

- I. Peer Groups
- a. The five general hospital peer groups are:
    - i. Major teaching hospitals;
    - ii. Minor teaching hospitals;
    - iii. Non-teaching hospitals with less than 58 beds;
    - iv. Non-teaching hospitals with 58 through 138 beds; and
    - v. Non-teaching hospitals with more than 138 beds.
  - b. Separate peer group payment rates are established for each group of these specialty hospitals:
    1. Long-term (ventilator) hospitals (for services other than psychiatric treatment, which are reimbursed at the prospective per diem rate described in Attachment 4.19-A: Item 14a, Item 16, and Item I.F, beginning on page 101)
    2. Children's hospitals
    3. Free-Standing Rehabilitation Hospitals (non-rural, non-state hospitals that are designated as rehabilitation specialty hospitals by Medicare).
  - c. Separate peer group payment rates are established for each group of resource-intensive inpatient services listed below. Costs for these units are carved out of the costs for the general or specialty hospitals listed above, and used to calculate rates specific to these units.

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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

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the inpatient per diem rate paid to acute care hospitals shall be increased by indexing to 56 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017.

1. Acute care hospitals whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 56 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased.
2. Carve-out specialty units, nursery boarder, and well-baby services are excluded from these rate increases.

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Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the inpatient per diem rate paid to long term hospitals shall be increased by indexing to 42 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017. Long term hospitals whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 42 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing rehabilitation hospitals shall be indexed to 36 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017. Rehabilitation hospitals whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 36 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased.

**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:

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.

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**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.



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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.
17. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, 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 indexing to 31 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017. Psychiatric hospitals and units whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 31 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided under a public-private partnership shall be exempt from this rate increase.



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- 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.
  - l. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals within non-rural, non-state acute care hospitals, shall be increased by indexing to 31 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017. Psychiatric hospitals and units whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 31 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided under a public-private partnership 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.

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  - 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.
  - l. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the prospective per diem rate paid to non-rural, non-state free-standing psychiatric hospitals within non-rural, non-state acute care hospitals, shall be increased by indexing to 31 percent of the small rural hospital prospective per diem rate in effect on January 1, 2017. Psychiatric hospitals and units whose per diem rates as of January 1, 2017, excluding the graduate medical education portion of the per diem, are greater than 31 percent of the January 1, 2017 small rural hospital rate shall not be increased. Inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided under a public-private partnership shall be exempt from this rate increase.
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  - 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.