

John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR



Dr. Courtney N. Phillips
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of the Secretary

May 22, 2023

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Medicaid & CHIP Operations Group
601 East 12th Street, Room 0300
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2898

RE: Louisiana Title XIX State Plan
Transmittal No. 23-0023

Dear Mr. Scott:

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. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Karen Barnes at (225) 342-3881 or via email at Karen.Barnes@la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Russo".

_____, for
Stephen R. Russo, JD
Executive Counsel
Director of Legal Audit and Regulatory Compliance

Attachments (2)

CNP:TAL:KC

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER
23-0023

2. STATE
LA

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

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVIC
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
May 12, 2023

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
Title XIX of the Social Security Act

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 2023 **\$ 0**
b. FFY 2024 **\$ 0**

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
**Section 7 – General Provisions
7.4.B Page 1 Temporary Extension to the Disaster Relief
Policies for COVID-19 National Emergency**

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 PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT
The purpose of this SPA is to extend COVID-19 disaster relief provisions governing direct wage floor and workforce retention bonus payments to long-term personal care providers, in accordance with the State’s approved disaster relief SPA LA TN 22-0031.

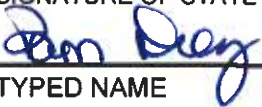
10. GOVERNOR’S REVIEW (Check One)

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.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL


12. TYPED NAME
Pam Diez, designee for Stephen R. Russo, JD

13. TITLE
**Executive Counsel
Director of Legal Audit and Regulatory Compliance**

14. DATE SUBMITTED
May 23, 2023

15. RETURN TO
**Tara A. LeBlanc, Medicaid Executive Director
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
P.O. Box 91030
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030**

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

17. DATE APPROVED

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

22. REMARKS

7.4. B Temporary Extension to the Disaster Relief Policies for COVID-19 National Emergency

Effective May 12, 2023 until May 12, 2024, the agency temporarily extends the following elections(s) of Section 7.4 approved on September 21, 2022 in disaster relief SPA LA TN 22-0031 of the State Plan:

Payments

X The agency makes the following adjustments to payments currently covered in the State plan:

The State respectfully requests to extend the following provisions:

- 1. LT-PCS providers that were rendering LT-PCS on or after October 1, 2021 and employing direct services workers (DSWs) will receive the equivalent of a \$4.50 per hour rate increase.*
- 2. This increase, or its equivalent, will be applied to all units of service provided by DSWs on or after October 1, 2021.*
- 3. All LT-PCS providers affected by this rate increase must pass 70 percent of their rate increases directly to the DSW in the form of a minimum wage floor of \$9 per hour and in other wage and non-wage benefits. This wage floor and wage and non-wage benefits will apply to full-time and part-time DSWs.*
- 4. The LT-PCS provider rate increases, wage floor and/or wage and non-wage benefits will continue as part of the State's approved Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan authorized under Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, through March 31, 2025 or until the end of the PHE, whichever occurs first.*

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of long-term personal care services. All rates are published on the agency's website at www.lamedicaid.com