



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

October 20, 2025

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Dear Louisiana Tribal Contact:

RE: Notification of Louisiana State Plan Amendments

In compliance with the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the Louisiana Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing is taking the opportunity to notify you of State Plan amendments (SPAs) that may have an impact on your tribe.

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Attached for your review and comments is a summary of the proposed SPAs. Please provide any comments you may have by **November 19, 2025**, to Marjorie Jenkins via email at Marjorie.Jenkins@la.gov or by postal mail to:

Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing
Medicaid Policy and Compliance
P.O. Box 91030
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030

Should you have additional questions about Medicaid policy, you may contact Marjorie at the email address above or by telephone at (225) 342-3881.

Thank you for your continued support of the tribal consultation process.

Sincerely,

Marjorie V. Jenkins for
Drew Maranto, Undersecretary
Interim Medicaid Executive Director

Attachment

DM/MJ/KF

c: Barbara Premhus
Cecilia Williams

State Plan Amendments for Submittal to CMS
Request for Tribal Comments
October 20, 2025

Federally-Facilitated Marketplace Assessments
Effective date: October 1, 2025

Legislative changes enacted through Act 427 of the 2025 Regular Session prohibits the Department from accepting Medicaid eligibility determinations made by a Federally-Facilitated Exchange, including the Federally-Facilitated Marketplace established under 42 U.S.C. §18041(c).

The purpose of this SPA is to amend the provisions governing Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility determinations, to transition from a Federally-Facilitated Marketplace (FFM) Determination state whereas the state delegated authority to the FFM to make final eligibility decisions, to an FFM Assessment state whereas the FFM makes a preliminary assessment of eligibility and the State makes the final decision.

Doula Services
Effective date: January 20, 2026

In January 2025, Louisiana was selected as one of the states to participate in the CMS Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) model, designed to focus exclusively on improving maternal healthcare for people enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. The model supports development of a whole-person approach to pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum care with the goal of reducing disparities in access and treatment. It aims to improve experiences and outcomes for mothers and their newborns. The model urges states to address gaps in maternal healthcare by using doulas.

Doulas are individuals who have been trained to provide physical, emotional, and educational support to pregnant and birthing women and their families before, during and after childbirth.

Legislative changes enacted through Act 228 of the 2025 Regular Session, requires the State to cover doula services. The purpose of this SPA is to add doula services to the State Plan, establish what services a doula may provide, qualifications for doulas, and the reimbursement methodology for these services.