

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:VII.32917 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

In May 2025, the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated a rule authorizing a one-time lump sum payment to privately owned or operated intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID) that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024. The department now proposes to amend the provisions governing reimbursement methodology for ICFs/IID to remove the deadline for sending out payments and remove language that limited which facilities were eligible to those active and enrolled on the date of payment. This will provide the department with greater flexibility in distributing payments and will allow facilities to qualify based on the original eligibility date of July 1, 2024.

The proposed Rule text below has been drafted utilizing plain language principles to ensure clarity and accessibility for all users. It has also been reviewed and tested for compliance with web accessibility standards.

Title 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part VII. Long Term Care

**Subpart 3. Intermediate Care Facilities for
Persons with Intellectual Disabilities**

Chapter 329. Reimbursement Methodology

Subchapter A. Non-State Facilities

§32917. Dedicated Program Funding Pool Payments

A. - C.1.f. ...

D. Effective for providers, active and Medicaid certified as of July 1, 2024, a one-time lump sum payment will be made to non-state, non-public ICFs/IID.

1. Methodology

a. - c. ...

d. - e. Repealed.

f. ...

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 46:28 (January 2020), amended LR 48:2972 (December 2022), LR 51:667 (May 2025), LR 52:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

Family Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

LA SPA 26-0002

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with
Intellectual Disabilities—Reimbursement Methodology
(LAC 50:VII.32917)

Poverty Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

In compliance with the Small Business Protection Act, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule may have a minimal impact on small businesses.

Provider Impact Statement

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tangela Womack, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. Womack is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is February 19, 2026.

Public Hearing

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 9, 2026. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:961(B)(1) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on February 26, 2026, in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after February 9, 2026. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing.

Bruce D. Greenstein
Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities—Reimbursement

Methodology

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$497 (\$249 SGF and \$248 FED) will be expended in FY 25-26 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to remove the deadline for sending out lump-sum payments to facilities that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024, and to remove language limiting eligible facilities to those that were active and enrolled in Medicaid on the date of payment. This will provide the department with greater flexibility in distributing payments and will allow facilities to qualify based on the original eligibility date of July 1, 2024.

The lump sum payment made in FY 25 will be redistributed among providers based on the language revision above. There will be no impact to the state as a result of the proposed rule, as payments are strictly being reallocated between eligible providers.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will have no effect on state or local governmental revenue collections for FY 25-26. It is anticipated that \$248 will be collected in FY 25-26 for the federal share of the expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to remove the deadline for sending out lump-sum payments to facilities that billed Medicaid between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024, and to remove language limiting eligible facilities to those that were active and enrolled in Medicaid on the date of payment. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule may have a minimal impact on small businesses.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There is no anticipated impact on competition and employment as a result of this proposed rule.

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Alan M. Boxberger
Legislative Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office