

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of the Secretary
Bureau of Health Services Financing

EPSDT Health Services

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing is proposing to adopt the following rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and as directed by the 1996-97 General Appropriation Act, which states: "The Secretary shall implement reductions in the Medicaid Program as necessary to control expenditures to the level approved in this schedule. The Secretary is hereby directed to utilize various cost containment measures to accomplish these reductions, including but not limited to pre-certification, pre-admission screening and utilization review, and other measures as allowed by federal law". This proposed rule shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing reimburses KIDMED providers a flat fee for medical screening services and for rehabilitation services provided to Medicaid recipients under 21 years of age, which are included in an Individual Education Plan or Individual/Family Service Plan and provided by school boards or early intervention centers covered under the early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic Testing and Treatment (EPSDT) Program. The rehabilitation services include evaluation and treatment services for speech, occupational, physical, and psychological therapies as well as audiological services. These services were not reduced during state fiscal year 1995-1996 when similar services were reduced for other providers. Effective July 1, 1996, (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 22, Number 7) the bureau adopted two emergency rules which reduced the reimbursement fees for follow-up medical screening and rehabilitation services under the Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment Program.

Therefore the bureau has determined that it is necessary to reduce the flat fee for the follow-up medical screening services codes and to reduce by ten percent the reimbursement fee for the previously referenced rehabilitation services. The department is now proposing to adopt the above reimbursement reductions under the EPSDT Program in order to maintain the cost savings initiated through emergency rulemaking.

Proposed Rule

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing establishes the following reimbursement methodology for follow-up medical screening and rehabilitation services provided under the Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Program:

A. Reimbursement for follow-up medical screening services included under the EPSDT Program is reduced for the following procedure codes.

Procedure Codes	Description	New Rate
X0180	Consult EPSDT-New Dx by Nurse	\$13.71
X0181	Consult EPSDT-New Dx by Nutrition	\$13.71
X0182	Consult EPSDT-New Dx by Social Worker	\$13.71
X0187	Consult EPSDT-Scrn Dx-by Nurse	\$13.71
X0188	Consult EPSDT-Scrn Dx-by Nutrition	\$13.71
X0189	Consult EPSDT-Scrn Dx-by Social Worker; and	\$13.71

B. The reimbursement for rehabilitation services provided to Medicaid recipients under 21 years of age included in an Individual Education Plan or Individual/Family Service Plan and provided by school boards or early intervention centers covered under the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic Testing and Treatment (EPSDT) Program is reduced by 10 percent, and the rehabilitation services include evaluation and treatment services for speech, occupational, physical, and psychological therapies as well as audiological services.

Interested persons may submit written comments to: Thomas D. Collins, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed rule.

A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 28, 1996, at 8:30 a.m., in the Auditorium of the Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to submit data views or arguments, orally or in writing. The deadline for the receipt of all comments is 4:30 p.m. on the day following the public hearing.

Bobby P. Jindal
Secretary

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
RULE TITLE: EPSDT Health Services**

- I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)
It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule and the corresponding emergency rule on reimbursement regulations for EPSDT Program services will reduce costs by approximately \$174,385 for SFY 1996-97; \$275,743 for SFY 1997-98; and \$289,530 for SFY 1998-99.
- II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)
Implementation of this rule will decrease federal revenue collections by approximately \$766,203 for SFY 1997; \$711,875 for SFY 1998; and \$747,468 for SFY 1999 based on decreased state expenditures.
- III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)
The enrolled Medicaid providers will experience reimbursement reductions shown above for Medicaid services rendered to persons of the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Testing Program.
- IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)
There is no known effect on competition and employment.

Thomas D. Collins
Director

H. Gordon Monk

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Chief Coordinator of the
Legislative Fiscal Office