

February 2025

Economic Impact Statements for Proposed Rules

The corresponding proposed Rule to each of the statements below may be viewed in its entirety in the February 20, 2025 *Louisiana Register*. Each *Louisiana Register* edition is published on the 20th of each month.

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Department of Agriculture and Forestry	Open Meetings via Electronic Means	The proposed rule change will have no estimated effect on costs to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. Directly affected person may realize a savings associated with not traveling to a meeting location as a result of meetings taking place electronically.
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education	Immunizations	There are no anticipated costs or benefits to directly affected persons, small business, or nongovernmental groups as a result of the proposed rule change.
Department of Health	Emergency Drug Kit Permit	There are no anticipated economic losses resulting from these proposed rule changes. The proposed rule changes will benefit pharmacies by eliminating the requirement to obtain the signature of the facility administrator on Emergency Dug Kit permit applications. This streamlines the application process, reducing administrative burdens without additional costs.
Department of Health	Federally Qualified Health Centers Alternative Payment Methodology	The proposed rule amends the provisions governing reimbursement to federally qualified health centers in order to establish an alternative payment methodology to pay an add-on amount of \$50 per encounter in addition to the prospective payment rate on file for the date of service. It is anticipated that this proposed rule will benefit providers by providing increased payment to providers for services they already render. The proposed rule is anticipated to increase payments to providers by approximately \$0 for FY 24-25 \$6,806,140 for FY 25-26, and \$6,941,712 for FY 26-27.
Department of Health	Home and Community-Based Services Waivers—Adult Day Health Care Providers Cost Reporting	The proposed rule amends the provisions governing Adult Day Health Care providers in order to extend the due date for cost report filing from September 30 to November 30. This proposed rule will also add language stating that the late filing penalty is non-refundable and subject to administrative appeal. This rule is not anticipated to result in any fiscal impact to providers or the Medicaid Program in FY 24-25, FY 25-26, or FY 26-27.
Department of Health	Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Rate Determination	This proposed rule continues a December 30th, 2024, Emergency Rule which eliminates the expiration date on a per diem rate increase for qualified intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID). This increased rate applies to private ICFs/IID that downsized from over 100 beds to less than 35 beds prior to December 31, 2010, without the benefit of a cooperative endeavor agreement (CEA) or transitional rate and that incurred excessive capital costs. The proposed rule will be beneficial to providers by continuing the rate that they currently receive, allowing them to continue providing the current level of services to recipients. It is anticipated that the cost as a result of this proposed rule will be approximately \$649,417 for FY 24-25, \$1,298,832 for FY 25-26, and \$1,332,025 for FY 26-27.
Department of Health	Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Reimbursement Methodology	This proposed rule amends the provisions governing reimbursement methodology for intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID) in order to provide for a one-time lump sum payment in FY 2025 to all privately owned or operated (ICFs/IID) that billed Medicaid days between August 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024, and are active and Medicaid certified at the time of payment. The total amount will be prorated among eligible facilities. Providers and small businesses will benefit from implementation of this proposed rule, by approximately \$31,000,000 for FY 24-25, \$0 for FY 25-26, and \$0 for FY 26-27.

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Department of Health	Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Temporary Reimbursement for Private Facilities	This proposed rule continues the provisions of the January 30, 2025, Emergency Rule which will extend the temporary rates for intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID) that have a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and have a high concentration of people who have intellectual developmental disabilities, significant behavioral health needs, and high risk behavior resulting in previous interface with the judicial system, and for whom no other private ICF/IID provider is able to support. This action is being taken to promote the health and welfare of Medicaid recipients by ensuring that eligible ICFs/IID are able to maintain the current level of service. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs or savings to providers in FY 24-25, FY 25-26, and FY 26-27.
Department of Health	Medicaid Purchase Plan Recipient Eligibility	This proposed rule increases the eligibility income limit for this program from 100 percent to 200 percent of the federal poverty, requires premiums for workers with income above 150 percent of federal poverty and increases the countable resource the worker can own from \$10,000 to \$25,000. This proposed rule amends current eligibility provisions by increasing eligibility limits for persons who meet the Social Security disability criteria. It is anticipated this proposed rule will benefit recipients by providing an affordable health insurance option for participants who were previously excluded due to income restrictions. It is anticipated that this proposed rule will result in estimated costs to the Medicaid program of \$55,283 for FY 24-25, \$5,579,826 for FY 25-26, and \$9,067,866 for FY 26-27.
Department of Health	Nursing Facilities Licensing Standards	It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs to providers in FY 24- 25, FY 25-26, or FY26-27.
Department of Health	Teletherapy Registration Fee	The proposed rule changes will provide out-of-state mental health providers with a reduced registration fee to offer teletherapy services in Louisiana. This may benefit Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFTs) by simplifying the process of practicing in Louisiana, provided they are licensed and in good standing in another jurisdiction. Additionally, this change could benefit Louisiana residents by increasing their access to LPCs and LMFTs.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections	Accident Reports	To the extent that individuals, small businesses, or non-governmental groups request audio/video recordings from body-worn and/or in-car cameras pertaining to accident reports, a cost of \$25 per video will be incurred.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections	Breath and Blood Alcohol Analysis Methods and Techniques	There is no anticipated cost or benefit to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.
Department of Treasury	Disability Accommodations for Open Meetings	Electronic meetings could potentially reduce expenses to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups by negating the need for travel to a board meeting.
Department of Treasury	Procedures for Election of Louisiana State Police Retirement System Trustees	There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small business, or non-governmental groups.