

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

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

**School Based Health Centers
Rehabilitation Services
Reimbursement Rate Increase
(LAC 50:XV.9141)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends LAC 50:XV.9141 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopted provisions to allow for Medicaid coverage and reimbursement of mental health services provided to students by School Based Health Centers and to establish provisions for other Medicaid-covered services students already receive (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 34, Number 7).

In compliance with a court order from the *Melanie Chisholm, et al vs. Kathy Kliebert* class action litigation, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing

proposes to amend the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for school based health centers in order to increase the reimbursement rates for physical and occupational therapy services.

This action is being taken to promote the health and welfare of Medicaid recipients by ensuring continued access to therapy services in school based health centers. It is anticipated that implementation of this Emergency Rule will increase expenditures in the Medicaid Program by approximately \$76,718 for state fiscal year 2013-2014.

Effective February 13, 2014 the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the provisions governing the reimbursement methodology for school based health centers to increase the reimbursement rates for physical and occupational therapies.

Title 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Part XV. Services for Special Populations

Subpart 5. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment

Chapter 91. School Based Health Centers

Subchapter E. Reimbursement

§9141. Reimbursement Methodology

A. - B.2. ...

[C. Effective for dates of service on or after February](#)

13, 2014, reimbursement for physical and occupational therapy services shall be 85 percent of the 2013 Medicare published rate.

D. Speech/language therapy services shall continue to be reimbursed at the flat fee in place as of February 13, 2014 and in accordance with the Medicaid published fee schedule for speech/language therapy services provided in school based health centers.

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 and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 34:1420 (July 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

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.

Interested persons may submit written comments to J. Ruth Kennedy, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. She is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this

Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary