

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

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METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1905(a) OF THE ACT THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

**CITATION**  
**42 CFR Section 1396d(1)(3)B**

**Free-Standing Birthing Centers**  
**Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates**

Effective for dates of service on or after November 20, 2015, a free-standing birthing center (FSBC) shall be reimbursed a one-time payment for labor and delivery services at a rate equal to 90 percent of the average per diem rates of surrounding hospitals\* providing the same services.

FSBCs shall be reimbursed for labor and low-risk delivery services provided to Medicaid eligible pregnant women by an obstetrician, family practitioner, certified nurse midwife, or licensed midwife. FSBC services are appropriate when a normal, uncomplicated labor and birth is anticipated.

*Attending physicians* shall be reimbursed for birthing services according to the published fee schedule rate for physician services rendered in the Professional Services program.

*Certified nurse midwives* providing birthing services within a FSBC shall be reimbursed at 80 percent of the published fee schedule rate for physician services rendered in the Professional Services program.

*Licensed midwives* providing birthing services within a FSBC shall be reimbursed at 75 percent of the published fee schedule rate for physician services in the Professional Services program.

A licensed midwife providing birthing services within the FSBC must:

1. Have passed the national certification exam through the North American Registry of Midwives; and
2. Hold a current, unrestricted state license with the Louisiana State Board of Examiners.

All rates are published on the Medicaid provider website using the following link:

[http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/fee\\_schedules/feeschedulesindex.htm](http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/fee_schedules/feeschedulesindex.htm)

\*Surrounding Hospital

- A. Urban areas: located within a 20-mile radius of the FSBC.
- B. Rural areas: located within a 30-mile radius of the FSBC.

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