

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing  
and  
Office of Behavioral Health**

**Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration  
Waiver**

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Bureau of Health Services Financing (BHSF) and the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) currently provide critical access to opioid use disorder (OUD) and other substance use disorder (SUD) services, and continue delivery system improvements for these services to provide more coordinated and comprehensive OUD/SUD treatment for Medicaid beneficiaries through the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

LDH hereby gives public notice of its intent to seek approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a renewal of its application for the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

Interested persons may attend one of two public hearings the Louisiana Department of Health is conducting in order to present the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver Renewal Application and take comments and questions from members of the public. Due to COVID-19 and physical distancing recommendations, the public hearings will be

held via internet and telephone only on the following dates and times:

Monday, November 1, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; and

Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please visit [www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115](http://www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115) for links and telephone numbers necessary to access the hearings.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary

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LDH hereby gives public notice of its intent to seek approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a renewal of its application for the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

In compliance with CMS requirements, LDH is posting the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver renewal application for public comment from October 29, 2021 through November 28, 2021. CMS regulations require LDH to actively engage the public and give program participants, advocates, providers and other community stakeholders the chance to provide input regarding changes made to current waiver applications prior to submission of final versions to CMS.

The Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver renewal application is posted to the OBH website and may be accessed at the following address:

[www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115](http://www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115). To request a hard copy, email Missy Graves at [Missy.Graves@La.Gov](mailto:Missy.Graves@La.Gov) or call (225)342-2540.

Implementation of the provisions of this waiver renewal application is contingent upon CMS approval.

Interested persons may submit written comments via electronic mail to Keith Durham at [Keith.Durham@La.Gov](mailto:Keith.Durham@La.Gov). Written comments may also be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Health, Attn: Keith Durham, P.O. Box 91030 (Bin #24), Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Mr. Durham is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed renewal. The deadline for

submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on November 28,  
2021.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary

**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

**Tribal Notice**

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

October 15, 2021

Karen Matthews,  
Health and Human Services  
Director  
Chitimacha Health Clinic  
P.O. Box 640  
Charenton, LA 70523

Angela Martin  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 640  
Charenton, LA 70523

Mildred Darden, Clinic Office  
Supervisor  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 640  
Charenton, LA 70523

Marshall Pierite, Chairman  
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 1589  
Marksville, LA 71351-1589

Chief Beverly Cheryl Smith  
Kellye Smith, Health Director  
The Jena Band of Choctaw Indians  
P. O. Box 14  
Jena, LA 71342

David Sickey, Chairman  
Paula Manuel, Health Director  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532

Cameron Chase, Health Director  
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 1589  
Marksville, LA 71351-1589

Dear Louisiana Tribal Contact:

**RE: Notification of Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115  
Demonstration Waiver - Renewal Application**

The Louisiana Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Behavioral Health, through collaborative efforts, currently provide critical access to opioid use disorder (OUD) and other substance use disorder (SUD) services, and continue delivery system improvements for these services to provide more coordinated and comprehensive OUD/SUD treatment for Medicaid beneficiaries through the Healthy Louisiana SUD 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

In compliance with the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the Louisiana Department of Health is taking the opportunity to notify you of our intent to submit a waiver renewal application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the provisions governing the Healthy Louisiana SUD 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

Implementation of the provisions of this waiver renewal application is contingent upon CMS approval.

Please provide any comments you may have by **November 14, 2021**, to Karen Barnes via email at [Karen.Barnes@la.gov](mailto:Karen.Barnes@la.gov) or by postal mail to:

Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing  
Medicaid Policy and Compliance  
P.O. Box 91030  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030

Should you have additional questions about Medicaid policy, Ms. Barnes will be glad to assist you. You may contact her via email at the email address above or via telephone at (225) 342-3881.

Thank you for your continued support of the tribal consultation process.

Sincerely,

Karen H. Barnes for  
Patrick Gillies  
Medicaid Executive Director

PG/KHB/KS

c: Brian Bennett  
Babette Bordelon  
Missy Graves  
Robyn McDermott  
Nancy Grano

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Bureau of Health Services Financing  
and  
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**Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration  
Waiver**

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Bureau of Health Services Financing (BHSF) and the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) currently provide critical access to opioid use disorder (OUD) and other substance use disorder (SUD) services, and continue delivery system improvements for these services to provide more coordinated and comprehensive OUD/SUD treatment for Medicaid beneficiaries through the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver program.

LDH hereby gives public notice of its intent to seek approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a renewal of its application for the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver program. A copy of the full public notice and application may be viewed at [www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115](http://www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115). To request a hard copy, email Missy Graves at [Missy.Graves@La.Gov](mailto:Missy.Graves@La.Gov) or call (225)342-2540. Comments may be submitted via electronic mail to Keith Durham at [Keith.Durham@La.Gov](mailto:Keith.Durham@La.Gov). Written comments may also be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Health, Attn: Keith Durham, P.O. Box

91030 (Bin #24), Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Mr. Durham is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed renewal. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 11:59 p.m. on May 6, 2022.

A public hearing will be held to present the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration Waiver Renewal Application and take comments and questions from members of the public. Due to COVID-19 and physical distancing recommendations, the public hearing will be held via internet and telephone only on Monday, April 11, 2022, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please visit [www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115](http://www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115) for the link and telephone number necessary to access the hearings.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SECTION 1115 HEALTHY LOUISIANA SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER EXTENSION APPLICATION

Public Notice - Updated  
April 5, 2022

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) is providing a revised public notice of its intent to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) an extension application for the Healthy Louisiana Substance Use Disorder (SUD) section 1115 demonstration. The application requests a five-year renewal of the demonstration for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027. This application seeks approval to continue to operate the demonstration as approved with no changes.

This notice revises a prior notice issued on October 29, 2021. The revisions to this public notice include additional detail related to the demonstration's goals, objectives, hypotheses, health care delivery system, eligibility and cost sharing requirements, expenditure authority, and enrollment and expenditure data.

## Demonstration Overview

In response to the growing concern over rates of opioid use disorders (OUDs) and SUDs in general, LDH applied for an 1115 Demonstration Waiver in 2017 to allow continuation of treatment for OUD/SUD in institutions for mental diseases (IMDs) regardless of length of stay. Approval was received to begin the Healthy Louisiana SUD 1115 demonstration waiver effective February 1, 2018. The demonstration allows LDH to receive federal financial participation (FFP) for SUD treatment and withdrawal services provided to beneficiaries residing in IMDs with stays longer than 15 days. Medicaid eligible beneficiaries may receive SUD treatment and withdrawal services through a contracted Medicaid managed care organization (MCO). This demonstration makes no changes to Louisiana Medicaid's State Plan benefits and imposes no cost sharing requirements for beneficiaries.

## Goals, Objectives, and Hypotheses

The overall goal of this demonstration is for Louisiana to maintain critical access to OUD and other SUD services and continue delivery system improvements for these services to provide more coordinated and comprehensive OUD/SUD treatment for Medicaid beneficiaries. During the demonstration period, Louisiana seeks to achieve the following:

- Increase enrollee access to and utilization of appropriate OUD/SUD treatment services based on the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria;
- Decreased use of medically inappropriate and avoidable high-cost emergency department and hospital services by enrollees with OUD/SUD;
- Increased initiation of follow-up after discharge from emergency department for alcohol or other drug dependence; and
- Reduced readmission rates for OUD/SUD treatment.

The following goals and hypotheses are proposed for the extension period and are unchanged from the initial demonstration approval:

Table 1: LA Healthy LA 1115 SUD Goals and Hypotheses

Goal	Hypothesis	Example Measure	Data Source
Increase access to evidence-based OUD/SUD care	The demonstration will increase the share of beneficiaries who are treated for OUD/SUD in ways that are consistent with evidence-based care	Share of beneficiaries with an OUD/SUD treated in an IMD	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Increase access to and utilization of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for OUD/Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD)	The demonstration will increase the use of MAT	Share of those with an OUD/AUD diagnosis who are treated using MAT	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data; Key informant interviews
Ensure efficient provider capacity at each level of care for OUD/SUD	The demonstration will improve provider capacity	Total number of SUD providers	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Decrease use of medically inappropriate care and reduce reliance on emergency department and hospital services for OUD/SUD treatment	The demonstration will reduce visits to the emergency department and the use of hospital services for the treatment of OUD/SUD	Emergency department visits for OUD/SUD	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Reduce readmission rates for OUD/SUD treatment	The demonstration will reduce hospital readmission rates for OUD/SUD	Readmissions for OUD/SUD	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Increase use of evidence-based OUD/SUD patient placement criteria	The demonstration will increase the use of evidence-based OUD/SUD patient placement criteria	Appropriate placement for OUD/SUD treatment	MCO Monitoring Reports
Increase initiation of follow-up after discharge from the emergency department or hospital for OUD/SUD	The demonstration will increase initiation of follow-up after discharge from the emergency department or hospital for OUD/SUD	Follow-up after discharge from the ED for OUD/SUD	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Increase adherence to and retention in treatment	The demonstration will increase adherence to and retention in treatment	Share of those with an OUD/SUD diagnosis who receive follow-up treatment within 35-60 and 61-90 days after initial episode of care	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data
Reduce instances of drug overdose and overdose deaths	The demonstration will decrease the rate of drug overdose and the number of drug deaths	Number of non-fatal drug overdoses	Louisiana Medicaid Claims Data and Louisiana Office of Public Health Vital Records

## Enrollment and Expenditure Projections

The following table includes historical enrollment and expenditure totals from the first three years of the initial demonstration period and projected totals for the extension period. No changes are projected in enrollment for the extension period and expenditures are trended based on historical experience.

Table 2: LA Healthy LA 1115 SUD Historical and Projected Enrollment and Expenditures

	Number of Persons Eligible	Total Expenditures
Initial Waiver Period		
2018	2,008	\$12,744,753
2019	1,942	\$14,291,000
2020	1,944	\$16,109,357
Extension Waiver Period (projected)		
2023	1,944	\$24,030,297
2024	1,944	\$27,457,029
2025	1,944	\$31,372,362
2026	1,944	\$35,846,062
2027	1,944	\$40,957,694

Note: 2021 actual enrollment and expenditure data not finalized and 2022 data not available

## Waiver and Expenditure Authorities

Louisiana requests to extend the following expenditure authority authorized under the initial demonstration:

**Residential Treatment for Individuals with SUD.** Expenditures for otherwise covered services furnished to otherwise eligible individuals who are primarily receiving treatment and withdrawal management services for SUD who are short-term residents in facilities that meet the definition of an IMD.

## Demonstration Application and Public Comment

LDH will be accepting public comment on the Healthy Louisiana SUD 1115 Demonstration application from April 6, 2022 through May 6, 2022. The application is available on LDH's website for public review at the following web address: [www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115](http://www.ldh.la.gov/SUD1115). To request a hard copy of the application for review, email Missy Graves at [Missy.Graves@la.gov](mailto:Missy.Graves@la.gov) or call (225) 342-2540. Interested persons may submit written comments via electronic mail to Keith Durham at [Keith.Durham@la.gov](mailto:Keith.Durham@la.gov). Written comments may also be mailed to:

Louisiana Department of Health  
Attn: Keith Durham  
P.O. Box 91030 (Bin #24)  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

The deadline for submitting written comments is at 11:59 p.m. on May 6, 2022.

## Public Hearing

LDH will conduct a public hearing to present the Healthy Louisiana SUD 1115 Demonstration application to the public and receive comments. This hearing will be held via web conference and by telephone. The information for the hearing is included below. Any comments received during the public hearing will be recorded and incorporated into the final demonstration application, along with LDH's response.

April 11, 2022

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. CST

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85693465774>

USA 602 333 0032

Conference code: 1935026