



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Aging and Adult Services

September 5, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable John A. Alario, President, Louisiana Senate  
(apa.senatepresident@legis.la.gov)  
The Honorable Taylor F. Barras, Speaker of the House  
(apa.housespeaker@legis.la.gov)  
The Honorable Fred H. Mills, Jr., Chairman, Senate Committee on Health and  
Welfare (apa.s-h&w@legis.la.gov)  
The Honorable Frank A. Hoffmann, Chairman, House Committee on Health and  
Welfare (apa.h-hw@legis.la.gov)  
The Honorable Eric LaFleur, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee  
(apa.s-fin@legis.la.gov)  
The Honorable Cameron Henry, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee  
(apa.h-app@legis.la.gov)

**FROM:** Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH *Cindy River*  
Secretary

**RE:** Oversight Report on Office of Aging and Adult Services Proposed Rulemaking

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (R.S. 49:950 et seq.) as amended, we are submitting the attached documents for the proposed Rule for Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury (LAC48:I. Chapter 19).

The Department published a Notice of Intent on this proposed Rule in the July 20, 2018 issue of the *Louisiana Register* (Volume 44, Number 07). A public hearing was held on Monday, August 27, 2018. Those that attended included employees of LDH and members of the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury board. No oral testimony was given or written comments received regarding this proposed Rule.

The Department anticipates adopting the Notice of Intent as a final Rule in the October 20, 2018 issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

September 5, 2018

Page 2

The following documents are attached:

1. a copy of the Notice of Intent;
2. the public hearing certification;
3. the public hearing attendance roster; and
4. a digital recording of the hearing

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Attachments (4)

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**Title 48**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH—GENERAL**  
**Part I. General Administration**  
**Subpart 1. General**  
**Chapter 19. Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury**  
Editor's Note: This Chapter, formerly LAC 67:VII.Chapter 19, was moved to LAC 48:I.Chapter 19.  
**§1901. Program Profile**  
**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1901]**  
A. ...  
B. Program Administration  
1. The Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS), shall be responsible for administration of the Louisiana Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund.  
2. OAAS has the responsibility of:  
a. - b. ...  
c. evaluating the needs of head injured and spinal cord injured individuals to identify service gaps and needs;  
d. submitting an annual report with recommendations to the legislature and governor 60 calendar days prior to each Regular Session of the Legislature; and  
e. monitoring, evaluating, and reviewing the development and quality of services funded through the trust fund.  
AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).  
HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1252 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:84 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

§1905. Definitions  
[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1905]

\* \* \*

*Medically Stable*—Repealed.  
*Medically Unstable*—Repealed.  
\* \* \*

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1253 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:84 (January 2014), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 42:1669 (October 2016), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

§1907. General Requirements  
[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1907]

A. ...

B. Case Record Documentation. A case record will be maintained for each individual served.

1. The record shall contain the following:

- a. documentation to support the decision to provide, deny, or amend services;
- b. documentation of the amounts and dates of each service delivery;
- c. service plans and progress notes;
- d. proof of individual identifications; and
- e. any applicable assessments.

2. Repeal

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1253 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:85 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44.

§1909. Individual Appeals Rights  
[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1911]

A. Administrative Review. The administrative review is the first level appeal process used by individuals for a timely resolution of disagreements pertaining to eligibility decisions or a denial of services.

1. All applicants/participants shall be provided written notification to inform them of their appeal rights regarding eligibility and/or the denial of services.

a. The written notification shall include:

- i. the decision being reached;
- ii. the basis for and effective date of the decision;
- iii. the specific means for appealing the decision;
- iv. the individual's right to submit additional evidence and information;
- v. information about the individual's right to representation; and
- vi. the name and address of the trust fund program.

2. The appeal must be requested by the individual (or their representative) and shall be:

- a. made in writing; and
- b. post-marked or received in the trust fund program office within 15 business days of the date on the written notification of denial.

- c. Repealed.
- d. Repealed.
- e. Repealed.

3. The administrative review may be conducted face-to-face or via telephone with the program manager of the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Program.

4. Services shall continue during the administrative review process unless the services being provided have been obtained through:

- a. misrepresentation;
- b. fraud; and/or
- c. collusion or criminal conduct on the part of the individual.

5. The administrative review must take place, a decision reached, and written notification of the decision provided to the individual within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the individuals' appeal request.

6. The written notification of the administrative review decision shall include:

- a. the decision being reached;
- b. the basis for and effective date of the decision;
- c. the specific means for appealing the administrative review decision;

7. If the individual fails to attend the administrative review either in person or via telephone, the appeal will be considered abandoned and the appeal process is exhausted.

B. Advisory Board Review. In the event that a disputed decision is not resolved through the administrative review process, the individual may request a second level appeal before the advisory board.

1. Requests for advisory board review shall be:

- a. made in writing to the program manager of the trust fund program;
- b. post-marked or received in the trust fund program office within 15 business days of the date on the administrative review decision notice.

- c. Repealed.
- d. Repealed.
- e. Repealed.

2. The advisory board review shall take place at the time of the next regularly scheduled advisory board meeting following the receipt of the individual's written request, unless the program manager deems that it is necessary to address the situation sooner, in which case a special meeting of the advisory board could be called for the purpose of conducting the review.

3. The individual shall have the right to:

- a. submit additional evidence, and
- b. bring representation to the advisory board review.

4. The advisory board shall:

- a. make an impartial decision;
- b. provide a written notice of the decision within 10 business days of the advisory board review.

5. The decision of the advisory board is final and the appeal process is exhausted.

6. If the individual fails to attend the appeal hearing either in person or via telephone, the appeal will be considered abandoned and all appeal processes shall be exhausted.

NOTE: Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1254 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:85 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**§1911. Program Eligibility**

**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1913]**

A. In order for an individual to be determined eligible for services, the individual must:

1. meet the definition of spinal cord injury or traumatic brain injury as defined in §1905 above;
  2. be a resident of the state of Louisiana and officially domiciled in the state of Louisiana at the time of injury and during the provision of services;
  3. have a reasonable expectation to achieve improvement in functional outcome with assistance;
  4. have exhausted all other Medicare and Medicaid sources;
  5. be willing to accept services from an approved facility/program; and
  6. complete and submit appropriate application for services.
7. Repealed.
  8. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1255 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:86 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**§1913. Ineligibility**

**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1915]**

A. A determination of ineligibility is made when the individual does not meet program eligibility as defined in §1911 above.

1. Repealed.
2. Repealed.
3. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1255 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:86 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**§1915. Fiscal**

**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1917]**

A. Limitations. Expenditures on behalf of any one individual shall not:

1. exceed \$15,000 during the 12-month period based on the participant's eligibility/anniversary date.
2. exceed the total lifetime maximum of \$50,000.

B. ...

C. Prior Written Authorization and Encumbrance. The proper authorizing document(s) must be written before the initiation of goods or services.

1. Failure to obtain prior authorization will result in a denial of products or services.

a. The program manager may approve items to be reimbursed for situations deemed unavoidable/emergency.

D. All monies collected, but not expended, for the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Program are carried forward to the following fiscal year.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1255 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:86 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**§1917. Service Plan**

**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1919]**

A. Once an individual has been determined eligible for services, an appropriate individualized assessment shall be completed in order to:

1. determine the scope of services;
2. develop, implement, and update service plans as appropriate;

3. Repealed.

4. Repealed.

B. The service plan shall:

1. be individualized;
2. be outcome oriented;
3. include (at a minimum) all of the following:
  - a. specific services to be delivered or rendered;
  - b. frequency of the service(s)
  - c. beginning and ending dates;
  - d. costs of services;
  - e. service provider.

4. be presented by means understandable to the individual served.

C. The individual or authorized representative must give informed written consent to the service plan and all amendments.

D. The case record shall include all updates and amendments to the service plan.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1255 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:86 (January 2014), LR 44:

**§1919. Services**

**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1921]**

A. ...

B. Service plans shall be written with a goal of achieving specific objectives:

1. related to the participant's injury, and
2. to improve participant's functioning in their home and community.

C. Additional documentation may be requested to justify the need for a particular good/service.

D. Services may include, but are not limited to:

1. - 3. ...
4. medication and medical supplies;
5. personal care attendant services;
6. - 7. ...
8. environmental accessibility modifications ;
9. vehicle accessibility modifications;
10. transportation for non-emergency medical appointments.

E. The trust fund will not pay for the following (this list is not all-inclusive):

1. - 2. ...
3. routine vehicle maintenance and repairs;
4. routine home maintenance and repairs;
5. recreational items or activities;
6. routine bills or payments;
7. funeral expenses
8. legal expenses

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1255 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:86 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**§1923. Conditions for Case Closure**  
**[Formerly LAC 67:VII.1925]**

A. ...

1. has shown consistent failure to cooperate with the service plan and case managers;
2. reaches the maximum \$50,000 in total lifetime expenditures;
3. has less than \$100 of the lifetime balance remaining for a period of 12 months or more.
4. does not meet the program's eligibility criteria;
5. resides in another state or moves to another state;
6. fails to maintain a safe and legal home environment;
7. is unable to be contacted after two phone call attempts on two separate days and does not respond to written notification within 15 business days of the date on the notice;
8. made misrepresentations in the eligibility determination process;
9. made misrepresentations to obtain goods and services;
10. is incarcerated.
11. repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 46:2631-2635 and R.S. 36:259(T).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services, LR 21:1256 (November 1995), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 40:87 (January 2014), amended by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 44:

**Family Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered as described in R.S. 49:972. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on the stability of the family and on the family budget as these changes will allow participants of the program to receive services in a more timely manner.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered as described in R.S. 49:973. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a

positive effect on health care for the THSCI clients as they will be able to obtain services quicker.

**Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

**Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to the Louisiana Department of Health, Attn: THSCI Trust Fund Program, P.O. Box 2031 (Bin 14), Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or by email to THSCI@La.Gov. The THSCI Program Manager is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule.

**Public Hearing**

A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Monday, August 27, 2018 at 9 a.m. in Room 118, Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views or arguments either orally or in writing. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is 4:30 p.m. on the next business day following the public hearing.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH  
Secretary

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**  
**FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**  
**RULE TITLE: Traumatic Head and**  
**Spinal Cord Injury Definitions**

**I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

The proposed rule change is anticipated to increase expenditures for the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS) by approximately \$1,065 in FY 19 for the publication of the proposed rule. It is not anticipated that any other state or local governmental units will incur costs or savings as a result of this rule change.

The proposed rule amends Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) Title 48, Part 1, Chapter 19 – Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury (THSCI). This rule change is being proposed to codify current practices to ensure applicants and participants of the program receive services in compliance with Act 424 of the 2018 RLS, which clarifies that services are intended to enable participants to return to a reasonable level of functioning in their communities with assistance and that funds are available through THSCI only after Medicare and Medicaid sources have been expended.

**II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)**

The implementation of these proposed rule changes will not affect revenue collections.

Currently, monies deposited into the THSCI trust fund are derived from a fee imposed on motor vehicle violations for driving under the influence, reckless operation, and speeding.

Implementation of this rule change does not impact the source of revenue or level of revenue collected for this fund.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rule may provide an economic benefit to participants of the THSCI program. The present rule provides that individuals may receive distributions from the THSCI trust fund only as a last resort after private and governmental funding sources (such as private insurance, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Medicare, Medicaid, and personal resources) have been exhausted. This amendment removes the requirement that all private and governmental sources must be exhausted before qualifying for assistance from the fund and specifies that only Medicare and Medicaid sources must be exhausted, which allows participants to access services before exhausting all of their financial resources.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule has no known effect on competition and employment.

Tara A. LeBlanc  
Assistant Secretary  
1807#031

Greg V. Albrecht  
Chief Economist  
Legislative Fiscal Office



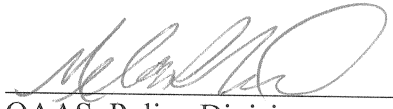
**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of the Secretary

**PUBLIC HEARING CERTIFICATION**  
**August 27, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m.**

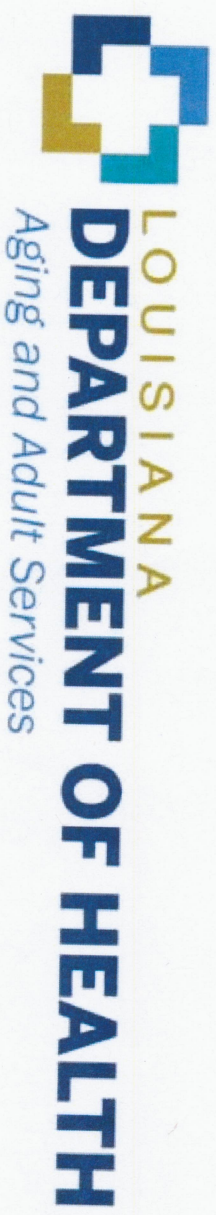
RE: Office of Aging and Adults Services – Spinal Cord Injury  
Docket # 20180827  
Department of Health  
State of Louisiana

**CERTIFICATION**

In accordance with LA R.S. 49:950 et seq., the attached public hearing agenda, together with one digital recording of the public hearing conducted on August 27, 2018 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana constitute the official record of the above-referenced public hearing.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
OAAS Policy Division  
8/27/18  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





Hearing Topic: Traumatic Head and Spinal "Cord injury (LAC 48:I. Chapter 19) Notice of Intent

Date: Monday, August 27, 2018

Place: Room 118 in the Bienville Building, Louisiana Department of Health at 628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE (Page 1):

Name	Address <i>(please include full address and zip code)</i>	Telephone Number	AGENCY or GROUP you represent
1. <i>Stanley Bordeaux</i>	<i>628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802</i>	<i>(225) 342-1309</i>	<i>LDH</i>
2. <i>Tonia Gedward</i>	<i>628 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Baton Rouge La. 70802</i>	<i>(225) 219-9935</i>	<i>LDH</i>
3. <i>ANDREW Kinyoro</i>	<i>9720 E Ramotha Dr B. R. LA 70815</i>	<i>(225) 3280266</i>	<i>Public</i>
4. <i>Jessica Mott</i>	<i>628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802</i>	<i>(225) 342-9208</i>	<i>LDH</i>

5.	Sheryllyn Sullivan	628 N. 4th Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802	(225) 342-1491	LDH
6.	Larry Basley	1104 Dennis St Logansport, La 71049	(318) 925-9588	Trust Fund meetings
7.			( )	
8.			( )	