

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Health Bureau of Health Services Financing**

#### **Professional Services Program Tobacco Cessation Counseling (LAC 50:IX.Chapter 11 and 15106)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to adopt LAC 50:IX.Chapter 11 and §15106 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing currently provides coverage for tobacco cessation counseling services rendered to pregnant beneficiaries in the Medical Assistance Program. The department now proposes to adopt provisions in the Professional Services Program in order to expand coverage for tobacco cessation counseling services to all Medicaid beneficiaries.

#### **Title 50 PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE Part IX. Professional Services Program Subpart 1. General Provisions**

#### **Chapter 11. Tobacco Cessation Counseling Services**

#### **§1101. General Provisions**

A. Effective for dates of service on or after June 20, 2023, the Medicaid Program provides coverage for tobacco

cessation counseling services to beneficiaries who use tobacco products or who are being treated for tobacco use.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 49:

**§1103. Scope of Services**

A. Tobacco cessation counseling services shall be reimbursed by the Medicaid Program when rendered by the beneficiary's primary care provider (PCP) or other appropriate healthcare professionals. Beneficiaries may receive up to four tobacco cessation counseling sessions per quit attempt, up to two quit attempts per calendar year, for a maximum of eight counseling sessions per calendar year. These limits may be exceeded, if deemed medically necessary.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 49:

**§1105. Provider Participation**

A. The entity seeking reimbursement for tobacco cessation counseling services must be an enrolled Medicaid provider.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 49:

**Subpart 15. Reimbursement**

**Chapter 151. Reimbursement Methodology**

**Subchapter A. General Provisions**

**§15106. Tobacco Cessation Counseling Services**

A. Effective for dates of service on or after June 20, 2023, the Medicaid Program shall provide reimbursement for tobacco cessation counseling services rendered by qualified health care professionals.

B. Reimbursement for tobacco cessation counseling services shall be a flat fee based on the appropriate HCPCS code.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 49:

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.

**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. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972, as it will increase access by Medicaid beneficiaries to tobacco cessation treatment services.

#### **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. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973 as it will increase access to tobacco cessation treatment that may lead to decreased tobacco utilization and thus decreased spending on tobacco products by family members.

#### **Small Business Analysis**

In compliance with the Small Business Protection Act, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on small businesses since it provides reimbursement for services that were not previously covered.

#### **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 Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, but may reduce the total direct and indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and may enhance the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170 since this proposed Rule provides reimbursement for services that were not previously covered.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tara A. LeBlanc, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. LeBlanc is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on May 1, 2023.

#### **Public Hearing**

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 10, 2023. If the criteria set

forth in R.S. 49:961(B)(1) are satisfied are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on April 27, 2023 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after April 10, 2023. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage, which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary