Table of Contents

State/Territory Name: Louisiana

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: LA-26-0004-A

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

1) Approval Letter
2) State Plan Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Children and Adults Health Programs Group

October 29, 2026

Seth J. Gold
Executive Medicaid Director
State of Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing
628 North 4th Street, Room 769
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Director Gold:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number LA-26-0004-A, submitted on September 22, 2026, has been approved. The effective date for the SPA is October 1, 2026.

Through this SPA, the state demonstrates compliance with section 2107(e)(1)(R) of the Social Security Act (the Act), added by section 71109 of Public Law 119-21, which the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services refers to as the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) legislation. This SPA amends state plan page CS18 to provide assurance that the state limits claims of CHIP federal financial participation to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Compact of Free Association migrants, and lawfully residing children as previously elected by the state under section 2107(e)(1)(Q) of the Act.

Your title XXI project officer is Abbie Walsh. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters and can be reached at Abagail.Walsh@cms.hhs.gov.

If you have additional questions, please contact Mary Beth Hance, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-4299. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/Signed by Jessica Stephens/

Jessica Stephens
Acting Director

Amendment 35
LA SPA TN 25-0005-A
CHIP – Services to Incarcerated Youth
Pursuant to the services for incarcerated youth requirements described in section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, this SPA implements required coverage for incarcerated youth in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
Effective Date: January 1, 2025
Implementation date: January 1, 2025

Amendment 36
LA SPA TN 25-0015
CHIP – Substitution of Coverage
The purpose of this SPA is to amend form CS20 in order to remove the waiting period for those beneficiaries who had private insurance within the 90 days prior to application. This change is in accordance with CMS Final Rule 89 FR 22780.
Effective Date: June 3, 2025
Implementation date: June 3, 2025

Amendment 37
LA SPA TN 25-0015-A
CHIP – Substitution of Coverage
The purpose of this SPA is to amend the provisions governing the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in order to remove the waiting period for those beneficiaries who had private insurance within the 90 days prior to application. This change is in accordance with CMS Final Rule 89 FR 22780.
Effective Date: June 3, 2025
Implementation date: June 3, 2025

Amendment 38
LA SPA TN 25-0022
CHIP – Federally-Facilitated Marketplace Assessments
The purpose of this SPA is to amend the provisions governing CHIP eligibility determinations, to transition from a Federally-Facilitated Marketplace (FFM) Determination state whereas the state delegated authority to the FFM to make final eligibility decisions, to an FFM Assessment state whereas the FFM makes a preliminary assessment of eligibility and the State makes the final decision.
Effective Date: October 1, 2025
Implementation date: October 1, 2025

Amendment 40
LA SPA TN 26-0004-A
CHIP – Citizenship or Satisfactory Immigration Status – Federal Financial Participation (FFP)
The purpose of the SPA is to amend the provisions governing the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan to align with new citizenship and immigration status eligibility requirements under Section 71109 of the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) Act of 2025.
Effective Date: October 1, 2026
Implementation date: October 1, 2026

1.4- TC **Tribal Consultation** (Section 2107(e)(1)(C)) Describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment, when it occurred and who was involved.

On May 21, 2026, notification was sent to the tribes around the State's intent to seek approval from CMS to amend the provisions governing the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan to align with new citizenship and immigration status eligibility requirements under Section 71109 of the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) Act of 2025.

TN 26-0004-A **Approval Date**: **Effective Date**: October 1, 2026

In the event of a state or federally declared disaster or public health emergency, the State may modify the tribal consultation process by shortening the number of days before submission of the SPA and/or conducting consultation after submission of the SPA. The duration of the provisions may not exceed the duration of the state or federal disaster period.

Transmittal Number	SPA Group	PDF #	Description	Superseded Plan Section(s)
LA 16-0001 **Effective April 20, 2016**	Eligibility Processing	CS24	Assessment to FFM Determination State	Section 4.4.2
LA SPA TN 19-0010 **Effective date: February 1, 2019**	Eligibility Processing	CS18	Eliminates the Five-Year Waiting Period and Provides Coverage to Lawfully Residing Children Under the Age of 19.	4.1-LR and 4.1.1-LR
LA SPA TN 21-0017 **Effective date: April 1, 2021**	Eligibility	CS20	Substitution of Coverage	LA 14-0026
LA SPA TN 22-0010 **Effective date: April 1, 2022**	Eligibility	CS27	Continuous Eligibility	LA 14-0006
LA SPA TN 24-0005 **Effective date: January 1, 2024**	Eligibility	CS27	Continuous Eligibility	LA 22-0010
LA SPA TN 25-0003 **Effective date: January 1, 2025**	Eligibility	CS21	Premiums and Cost Sharing	LA 14-0006
LA SPA TN 25-0015 **Effective date: June 3, 2025**	Eligibility	CS20	Substitution of Coverage	LA 21-0017
LA SPA TN 26-0004-A **Effective date: October 1, 2026**	Eligibility Processing	CS18	Citizenship	LA 19-0010

CHIP Eligibility

State Name: Louisiana

OMB Control Number: 0938-1148

Transmittal Number: LA - 26 - 0004 - A

Separate Child Health Insurance Program
Non-Financial Eligibility - Citizenship

CS18

Statute: Sections 1137(d), 1902(ee), 1903(v)(4) and (5), 1903(x), 2105(c)(9), and 2107(e)(1)(Q) and (R) of the Social Security Act (the Act); 8 U.S.C. sections 1611, 1613 and 1641
Regulations: 42 CFR 435.406, 407, 956, 457.320(b)(6), (c) and (d), and 457.380(b)

Citizenship

☑ The state provides CHIP to citizens and nationals of the United States and certain noncitizens who meet all other CHIP eligibility requirements under the state plan, including coverage for individuals for whom federal financial participation (FFP) is available consistent with sections 2107(e)(1)(R) and 1903(v)(5) of the Act ("FFP-eligible noncitizens"), and during a reasonable opportunity period pending verification of their U.S. citizenship, U.S. national or satisfactory immigration status.

■ The CHIP Agency provides eligibility for child and/or pregnancy related health assistance under the Plan to individuals who meet all eligibility requirements, including who are residents of 1 of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States:

Who are citizens or nationals of the United States; or

Who are FFP-eligible noncitizens in an immigration status or category listed in section 1903(v)(5) of the Act and cross-referenced at section 2107(e)(1)(R) of the Act and are not prohibited by section 403 of PRWORA (8 U.S.C. §1613); or
1) Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) - section 1903(v)(5)(B)(ii) of the Act; or
2) Cuban/Haitian entrants - section 1903(v)(5)(B)(iii) of the Act; or
3) Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants - section 1903(v)(5)(B)(iv) of the Act; and

Who have declared themselves to be citizens or nationals of the United States, or noncitizens having satisfactory immigration status, during a reasonable opportunity period, pending verification of their U.S. citizenship, U.S. national, or satisfactory immigration status consistent with requirements of sections 1903(x), 1137(d), 1902(ee), and 2105(c)(9) of the Act, and 42 CFR 435.406, 407, 911, 956, 457.320(d) and 457.380(b).

The reasonable opportunity period begins on and extends 90 days from the date the notice of reasonable opportunity is received by the individual.

The agency provides for an extension of the reasonable opportunity period if the individual is making a good faith effort to resolve any inconsistencies or obtain any necessary documentation, or the agency needs more time to complete the verification process.	No
The agency begins to furnish benefits to otherwise eligible individuals during the reasonable opportunity period on a date earlier than the date the notice is received by the individual.	Yes

CHIP Eligibility

The date benefits are furnished is:

- (•) The date of application containing the declaration of U.S. citizenship, U.S. national, or satisfactory immigration status.
- ( ) The first day of the month of application.
- ( ) Other date, as described:

The CHIP Agency elects the option to provide CHIP coverage to children up to age 19, lawfully residing in the United States, as provided in Section 2107(e)(1)(Q) of the Act (cross-reference to section 1903(v)(4) of the Act) who meet all other eligibility requirements in the state plan.

Yes

☑ The CHIP Agency provides assurance that lawfully residing children are also covered under the state's Medicaid program.

The CHIP Agency elects the option to provide CHIP coverage to pregnant women lawfully residing in the United States, as provided in section 2107(e)(1)(Q) of the Act (cross-reference to section 1903(v)(4) of the Act), who meet all other eligibility requirements in the state plan. The state may not select this option unless the state also elects to cover lawfully residing children. A state may not select this option unless the state also covers Targeted Low-Income Pregnant Women.

No

■ An individual is considered to be lawfully residing in the United States if he or she is lawfully present and meets state residency requirements and all other eligibility requirements in the state plan.

■ An individual is considered to be lawfully present in the United States if they are:

1. A qualified noncitizen as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1641(b) and (c);

2. A noncitizen in a valid nonimmigrant status, as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15) or otherwise under the immigration laws (as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(17));

3. A noncitizen who has been paroled into the United States in accordance with 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(5) for less than 1 year, except for an individual paroled for prosecution, for deferred inspection or pending removal proceedings;

4. A noncitizen who belongs to one of the following classes:

   (i) Granted temporary resident status in accordance with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1160 or 1255a, respectively;

   (ii) Granted Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in accordance with 8 U.S.C. §1254a, and individuals with pending applications for TPS who have been granted employment authorization;

   (iii) Granted employment authorization under 8 CFR 274a.12(c);

   (iv) Family Unity beneficiaries in accordance with section 301 of Pub. L. 101-649, as amended;

   (v) Under Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) in accordance with a decision made by the President;

   (vi) Granted Deferred Action status;

   (vii) Granted an administrative stay of removal under 8 CFR 241;

   (viii) Beneficiary of approved visa petition who has a pending application for adjustment of status;

5. Is an individual with a pending application for asylum under 8 U.S.C. § 1158, or for withholding of removal under 8 U.S.C. § 1231,or under the Convention Against Torture, who:

(i) Has been granted employment authorization; or

(ii) Is under the age of 14 and has had an application pending for at least 180 days;

6. Has been granted withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture;

7. Is a child who has a pending application for Special Immigrant Juvenile status as described in 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(27)(J);

8. Is lawfully present in American Samoa under the immigration laws of American Samoa; or

9. Is a victim of severe trafficking in persons, in accordance with the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-386, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7105(b)).

Exception: An individual with deferred action under the Department of Homeland Security's deferred action for the childhood arrivals process, as described in the Secretary of Homeland Security's June 15, 2012 memorandum, shall not be considered to be lawfully present with respect to any of the above categories in paragraphs (1) through (9) of this definition.

PRA Disclosure Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1148. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

V.20260707