



# State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

July 18, 2023

Jennifer Bowdoin  
Director, Division of Community Systems Transformation  
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group  
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244

**Re: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Section 9817, enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for home and community-based services (HCBS) spending plan and narrative– Louisiana Q1 2024 Update**

The State is including actual expenditures and narrative updates to its HCBS Spending Plan in the attached Excel document. Updates and proposed revisions to the Spending Plan are included in red font. Previously submitted activities that are pending CMS' approval are highlighted in blue.

The state continues to attest to the following:

- The state is using the federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP to supplement and not supplant existing state funds expended for Medicaid HCBS in effect as of April 1, 2021;
- The state is using the state funds equivalent to the amount of federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP to implement or supplement the implementation of one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program;
- The state is not imposing stricter eligibility standards, methodologies, or procedures for HCBS programs and services than were in place on April 1, 2021;
- The state is preserving covered HCBS, including the services themselves and the amount, duration, and scope of those services, in effect as of April 1, 2021; and
- The state is maintaining HCBS provider payments at a rate no less than those in place as of April 1, 2021.

The State provides the following information for the Semi-Annual Spending Plan Narrative:

- Please indicate whether an activity is one-time or temporary, ending on or before March 31, 2025, or if the state intends to sustain the activity beyond March 31, 2025, under the state's Medicaid program or using state only funding.
  - *See Column I*
- Describe any strategies the state intends to implement to sustain the state's activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.
  - *Column I denotes if the activity is one-time, temporary, or if the state intends to sustain. For the services authorized through the Appendix K, prior to the expiration of the PHE, the State will amend the base waivers to include the services for continued authorization/sustainment. For those items marked sustained, the State intends to seek funding in future budget requests (if applicable) to maintain these activities beyond the end of the ARPA reinvestment period.*
- Describe any strategies the state intends to implement to sustain planned provider payment increases (if applicable).
  - *Funding to sustain provider rate increases will be included in future state budget requests and contingent upon legislative approval.*
- Provide information on the amount or percentage of any rate increase or additional payment per provider and the specific Medicaid authorities under which the state will be making those rate changes or payments (if applicable).
  - *Column AI*
- Clearly indicate if your state has or will be requesting approval for a change to an HCBS program and be specific about which HCBS program, which authority it operates under, whether the change will be made in a fee-for-service or managed care delivery system, and when you plan to request the change.
  - *Any applicable requests for changes are notated in the progress updates column AG*
- Clearly indicate whether your state plans to pay for capital investments or ongoing internet connectivity costs as part of any activity to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS.
  - *The state does not intend to pay for capital investments or ongoing internet connectivity costs.*
- Provide updated information (as appropriate) on the status and details of the state's proposed activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. If the state's previously approved activities are cancelled or are expected to have significant delays, explain the reasons.
  - *Update included in column AG*

Additionally, Column AH includes information regarding activities that promote equity and/or promote equity and/or address social determinants of health.

If there are any questions regarding this report, please contact

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[REDACTED]

Thank you,

Tara A. LeBlanc  
Medicaid Executive Director