

Table of Contents

State/Territory Name Louisiana

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 25-0005

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) Companion Letter
- 3) CMS Form 179
- 4) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

October 10, 2025

Drew Maranto
Interim Medicaid Executive Director
State of Louisiana Department of Health
628 N. 4th Street
PO Box 91030
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030

Re: Louisiana State Plan Amendment (SPA) LA-25-0005

Dear Medicaid Executive Director Maranto:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number LA-25-0005, which attests to compliance with Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, to implement required coverage/reimbursement for incarcerated youth in Medicaid.

We have conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This letter is to inform you that the Louisiana Medicaid SPA LA-25-0005 was approved on October 10, 2025, with an effective date of January 1, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Williams at 410-786-2539 or via email at Cecilia.Williams@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Nicole McKnight
On Behalf of Courtney Miller, MCOG Director

Enclosures

cc: Najah Freeman
Keuna Franklin
Krystal Ceasor
Marjorie Jenkins

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Drew Maranto
Interim Medicaid Executive Director
State of Louisiana Department of Health
628 N. 4th Street
PO Box 91030
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030

Re: Louisiana State Plan Amendment (SPA) – 25-0005 Companion Letter

Dear Medicaid Executive Director Maranto:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is sending this companion letter to LA-25-0005, approved on October 10, 2025. This SPA amends the Medicaid state plan to provide for mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Social Security Act (the Act) for eligible juveniles that are incarcerated in a public institution post-adjudication of charges. As noted in the approval letter and state plan, this SPA is effective January 1, 2025, and will sunset on December 31, 2026. The state must complete the actions identified in this letter by the sunset date. Once these actions are completed, the state should submit a SPA to remove the sunset date from the state plan.

Effective January 1, 2025, section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act requires states to have an internal operational plan and, in accordance with such plan, provide for the following for eligible juveniles as defined in section 1902(nn) of the Act (individuals who are under 21 years of age and determined eligible for any Medicaid eligibility group, or individuals determined eligible for the mandatory eligibility group for former foster care children under 42 C.F.R. § 435.150 who are at least age 18 but under age 26) who are within 30 days of their scheduled date of release from a public institution following adjudication:

- In the 30 days prior to release (or not later than one week, or as soon as practicable, after release from the public institution), and in coordination with the public institution, the state must provide any screenings and diagnostic services which meet reasonable standards of medical and dental practice, as determined by the state, or as otherwise indicated as medically necessary, in accordance with the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements, including a behavioral health screening or diagnostic service.
- In the 30 days prior to release and for at least 30 days following release, the state must provide targeted case management services, including referrals to appropriate care and services

available in the geographic region of the home or residence of the eligible juvenile, where feasible, under the Medicaid state plan (or waiver of such plan).

We appreciate the state's efforts to implement this mandatory coverage and recognize the progress that has been made as well as the complexities associated with full implementation. However, during the review of LA-25-0005, CMS identified actions that must be completed to fully implement mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. CMS is issuing this companion letter to document these actions and establish a timeframe for their completion.

The state must complete the following actions by December 31, 2026, to fully implement section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. Once these actions are completed the state should submit a SPA to remove the sunset date from the state plan.

1. **Engaging and Onboarding Local/Parish Facilities:** Louisiana will continue to reach out and provide technical assistance to local facilities. Louisiana will conduct readiness assessments to ensure that the facility is able to effectively partner with the Louisiana Department of Health to meet section 5121 requirements when they express interest in participating. Specifically, Louisiana will assess the facility's ability to:
 - Designate a primary point of contact at the facility;
 - Execute data sharing agreements (if necessary) and establish a mechanism for the facility to report and exchange data with the state; and
 - Ensure that staffing and resources are in place to arrange for beneficiaries to receive case management and other services while incarcerated.

As always, CMS is available to provide technical assistance on any of these actions. If you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Williams at (410) 786-2539 or via email at Cecilia.Williams@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Nicole McKnight
On Behalf of Courtney Miller, MCOG Director

Enclosures

cc: Marjorie Jenkins
Najah Freeman
Keuna Franklin
Krystal Ceasor

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER
25-0005

2. STATE
LA

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL
SECURITY ACT

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
January 1, 2025

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

**42 CFR 441.18(a)(8)(i) and 441.18(a)(9)
Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act
of 2023 (CAA, 2023)**

a. FFY **2025** **\$ 42,892** \$0.00
b. FFY **2026** **\$ 75,995** \$0.00

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

**Attachment 3.1-M, Pages 1-2 (new pages)
~~Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1-A, Page 2 new~~
~~Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1-A, Pages 3-8 (new pages)~~**

~~Same (TN 87 24)~~

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

**The purpose of this SPA is to implement required coverage for incarcerated youth in Medicaid as described in
section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023).**

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

- ☐ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

☒ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

The Governor does not review State Plan material.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

15. RETURN TO

12. TYPED NAME
Drew P. Maranto

13. TITLE
Interim Secretary

14. DATE SUBMITTED
March 31, 2025

**Kimberly Sullivan, J.D.
Medicaid Executive Director
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
P.O. Box 91030
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030**

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED **March 31, 2025**

17. DATE APPROVED **October 10, 2025**

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL
January 1, 2025

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
Nicole McKnight

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
On Behalf of Courtney Miller, MCOG Director

22. REMARKS

10/03/2025: LA concurred to P&I changes to Boxes 6, 7, & 8

**Mandatory Coverage for
Eligible Juveniles who are
Inmates of a Public Institution
Post Adjudication of Charges**

State/Territory: Louisiana

General assurances. State must indicate compliance with all four items below with a check.

☐ In accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Social Security Act, the state has an internal operational plan and, in accordance with such plan, provides for the following for eligible juveniles as defined in 1902(n) (individuals who are under 21 years of age and determined eligible for any Medicaid eligibility group, or individuals determined eligible for the mandatory eligibility group for former foster care children age 18 up to age 26, immediately before becoming an inmate of a public institution or while an inmate of a public institution) who are within 30 days of their scheduled date of release from a public institution following adjudication:

☐ In the 30 days prior to release (or not later than one week, or as soon as practicable, after release from the public institution), and in coordination with the public institution, any screenings and diagnostic services which meet reasonable standards of medical and dental practice, as determined by the state, or as otherwise indicated as medically necessary, in accordance with the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements, including a behavioral health screening or diagnostic service.

☐ In the 30 days prior to release and for at least 30 days following release, targeted case management services, including referrals to appropriate care and services available in the geographic region of the home or residence of the eligible juvenile, where feasible, under the Medicaid state plan (or waiver of such plan).

☐ The state acknowledges that a correctional institution is considered a public institution and may include prisons, jails, detention facilities, or other penal settings (e.g., boot camps or wilderness camps).

PRA Disclosure Statement - This use of this form is mandatory and the information is being collected to assist the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in implementing Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 #85). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take about 50 hours per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Additional information provided (optional):

☐ No

☒ Yes [provide below]

The State may determine that it is not feasible to provide the required services during the pre-release period in certain carceral facilities (e.g., identified local jails, youth correctional facilities, and state prisons) and/or certain circumstances (e.g. unexpected release or short-term stays). The State will maintain clear documentation in its internal operational plan regarding each facility and/or circumstances where the state determines that it is not feasible to provide for the required services during the pre-release period. This information is available to CMS upon request. Services will be provided post-release, including the mandatory 30-days of targeted case management, screening, and diagnostic services.

The State will maintain clear documentation in its internal operational plan indicating which carceral facility/facilities are furnishing required services during the pre-release period but not enrolling in or billing Medicaid. This information is available to CMS upon request.

The authority to provide for mandatory coverage for eligible juveniles who are inmates of a public institution post adjudication of charges will cease on December 31, 2026.

PRA Disclosure Statement - This use of this form is mandatory and the information is being collected to assist the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in implementing Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 #85). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take about 50 hours per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

TN: 25-0005

Supersedes TN: New Page

Approval Date: October 10, 2025

Effective Date: January 1, 2025