

State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health Bureau of Health Services Financing

MEMORANDUM

- DATE: September 7, 2023
- TO: ICF/IIDs and Nursing Facilities
- FROM: Tara Leblanc, Medicaid Director Kimberly Sullivan, Interim Medicaid Director
- SUBJECT: Per diem rate recoupment for failure to timely report Long Term Care residents' excess resources to LDH

This notice supersedes the notice issued to providers by LDH on September 6, 2023, which listed incorrect contact information for the Long Term Care Unit.

This notice applies to all Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs) and Nursing Facilities (NFs) with Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in the Long Term Care Program. Please be advised that effective October 1, 2023, if a Long Term Care resident's personal fund account(s) exceeds the \$2,000.00 limit,¹ as explained below, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) will recoup the facility's applicable per diem rates. LDH reminds facilities of their obligations and reinforces that a facility's noncompliance with the applicable laws and policy will subject the facility to the appropriate sanctions.

Obligations for ICF/IIDs:

On July 20, 2018, LDH sent notice to all ICF/IIDs, which clarified the procedure for reporting a resident's excess resources to LDH.² The 2018 notice explained that if a resident's personal funds account balance exceeds \$2,000 as of the first moment of the first day of the month, the ICF/IID must report the excess balance to LDH within 10 calendar days from the date the facility obtained knowledge of the excess balance.³ The 2018 notice reminded ICF/IIDs that the provider manual requires the facilities to

¹ See Louisiana Department of Health, LOUISIANA MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY MANUAL at § Z-900 (Resource Limits by Program) and § H-800 (Long Term Care), <u>https://ldh.la.gov/page/1681</u> (last accessed August 29, 2023).

² Louisiana Department of Health, "Procedure Clarification for Reporting Excess Resources to Medicaid" (July 20, 2018), <u>https://ldh.la.gov/assets/medicaid/rateaudit/docs/Revised_memo_to_ICF-ID_facilities-Final_Draft.doc</u>.

³ *Id*.

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reconcile personal fund accounts at least monthly.⁴ Additionally, LDH regulations require ICF/IIDs to reconcile a resident's personal funds account at least monthly. 50 LAC Pt VII, §30709.

Please note that LDH retains the rights to audit a facility's resident's personal funds account, and the facility must cooperate with the audit process. 50 LAC Pt VII, § 32909.

Obligations for Nursing Facilities:

On August 29, 2017, LDH sent notice to NFs administrators, reminding the Long Term Care facilities of their duties with respect to "resident patient funds accounts."⁵ The 2017 notice makes clear that if the NF accepts a fiduciary role over a resident's personal funds, then the NF must monitor the resident's patient fund account balance and report changes that could affect a resident's eligibility for Medicaid (*e.g.*, resident's account balance exceeds \$2000.00 resource limit for Long Term Care Medicaid).⁶ Refer to 50 LAC Pt II, § 10161(J) for more details regarding NF obligations when managing residents' finances.

Please note that LDH retains the rights to audit a facility's resident's personal funds account, and the facility must cooperate with the audit process. 50 LAC Pt II, § 10153.

How to Report Long Term Care Residents' Excess Resources to LDH:

When a Long Term Care Medicaid beneficiary's personal funds account balance exceeds \$2,000 as of the first moment of the first day of the month, the ICF/IID or NF must report the excess balance to LDH within 10 calendar days from the date the facility is aware of the excess balance.

Facilities should report a resident's excess balance to LDH by emailing <u>ltcprocessing@la.gov</u>. Facilities should include the following text in the email's subject line: NOTIFICATION OF RESIDENT'S EXCESS RESOURCES.

The facility's reporting email to LDH should include the following information:

- The resident's personal identifiers;
- The resident's personal funds account balance;
- The date the facility became aware of the excess balance in the resident's personal funds account;
- The date the facility last reconciled the resident's personal funds account and/or conducted an accounting of the resident's personal funds account; and
- Any supporting documentation.

⁴ See Louisiana Department of Health, INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES (ICF/IID) PROVIDER MANUAL at p. 60 of 129, <u>https://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/Providermanuals/manuals/ICF_DD/ICF_DD.pdf</u> (last accessed August 29, 2023).

 ⁵ Louisiana Department of Health, "Resident Patient Fund Account" (August 29, 2017)
<u>https://ldh.la.gov/assets/medicaid/rateaudit/docs/Resident_Patient_Fund_Accounts_8-29-2017.pdf</u>.
⁶ Id.

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Facilities may also report a resident's excess resources to the Long Term Care Processing Unit through any of these methods:

- Provider Portal: <u>https://sspweb.lameds.ldh.la.gov/selfservice/</u>
- **Phone**: 1-800-230-0690
- **Fax**: 225-389-8019

Tara Leblanc Medicaid Executive Director

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Kimberly Sullivan, JD Interim Medicaid Executive Director