



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2019

TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Prescribing Providers and Pharmacists

FROM: Jen Steele, Medicaid Director *JMS*

SUBJECT: Louisiana Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) Assessment of Updated Pharmacy Copayments

Effective April 1, 2019, the Louisiana Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program and five Managed Care Organizations (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and United Healthcare) will modify pharmacy copay limits for Medicaid FFS and MCOs.

In accordance with CFR 447.56, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) will implement measures to ensure that copays of Medicaid household members do not exceed five percent of the family income. The implementation of the updated pharmacy copay limits will occur in two phases:

Phase 1: From April 1, 2019-December 31, 2019, a copay tier of \$0.00 will be assessed for Medicaid household members with a monthly income of \$800 or less.

Medicaid recipients who are not copay exempt, will still be assessed a copay ranging from \$0.50 to \$3.00 for pharmacy claims. The income-based copay tier will be established from April 1-December 31, 2019 as shown below:

Calculated State Payment	Copayment (Effective 4/1/2019 thru 12/31/2019)
Monthly income \$800 or less	\$0
\$10.00 or less	\$0.50
\$10.01-\$25.00	\$1.00
\$25.01-\$50.00	\$2.00
\$50.01 or more	\$3.00

Phase 2: Effective January 1, 2020, a maximum monthly copay per recipient will be applied at Point of Sale based on household income. Copay assessments will stop once the monthly threshold is met.

Note: Current copayment exemptions will still apply (i.e. under the age of twenty-one) during both phases.

If you have questions about the content of this memo, you may contact the FFS pharmacy help desk by phone at (800) 437-9101.

If you have questions about pharmacy claims billing, you may contact the appropriate plan at their pharmacy help desk listed in the chart.

Health Plan	Pharmacy Help Desk	Pharmacy Help Desk Phone Number
Aetna	CVS Health	(855) 364-2977
AmeriHealth Caritas	PerformRx	(800) 684-5502
Fee for Service	DXC Technology	(800) 648-0790
Healthy Blue	Express Scripts	(844) 367-6111
Louisiana Healthcare Connections	CVS Caremark	(800) 311-0543
United Healthcare	Optum Rx	(866) 328-3108

Please forward this notice to other providers to assist with notification. Your continued cooperation and support of the Louisiana Medicaid Program efforts to coordinate care and improve health are greatly appreciated.

JS/MBW/GJS

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans
Melwyn B. Wendt
DXC Technology