

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: October 21, 2025

Subject: [Informational Bulletin 25-31](#): ASAM Criteria 4th Edition Service Updates and Rate Revisions

Informational Bulletins that summarize policies and/or procedures are intended for quick reference and are accurate on the date they are issued.

ASAM Criteria 4th Edition Service Updates and Rate Revisions

During the 2025 Regular Legislative Session, the Louisiana Legislature appropriated funding to support a rate increase for substance use disorder service providers. The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) will implement this increase by adopting new rates developed by LDH's third-party actuaries in alignment with the **4th Edition of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria OR by maintaining the temporary 25% rate increase** implemented in State Fiscal Year 2025 (effective October 1, 2024), **whichever is higher**.

ASAM 4th Edition changes will be effective January 1, 2026 for beneficiaries who are 18 or older. Louisiana Medicaid has updated the [Specialized Behavioral Health Services \(SBHS\) fee schedule](#) to reflect the changes in rates and services.

Note: Room and Board rates have been removed from the SBHS fee schedule as these are not State Plan services and are payable at the discretion of the managed care organization (MCO).

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will update our claims processing systems to properly adjudicate ASAM services at the new rates and within the new age brackets as applicable, **by January 14, 2026**.

What do you need to do?

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will recycle any claims that were not paid according to these changes for any claims with dates of service **on or after January 1, 2026, within 15 days of implementing the system changes**.

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will also notify providers of our process and timeline for implementing the changes as well as their plan to recycle impacted claims.

For full details, please see [Informational Bulletin 25-31](#).

Questions regarding this message should be directed to AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007. The Provider Services Department can be reached daily between 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.

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Need to update your provider information? Send full details to“ network@amerihealthcaritasla.com