

July 2019

## **2019 annual Medicare Economic Index rate increases for rural health clinics and federally qualified health clinics**

Per Chapter 50 of the *Louisiana Administrative Code*, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) recently increased the prospective payment system (PPS) rates for rural health clinics (RHCs) and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs).

Effective July 1, 2019, all RHC (excluding clinics that receive a rate based on the alternative payment methodology) and FQHC rates increased by 1.5%, which is equal to the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) percentage released by CMS on November 21, 2018. These new rates are active in the LDH system and are viewable at the following link:

**[https://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/fee\\_schedules/feeschedulesindex.htm](https://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/fee_schedules/feeschedulesindex.htm)**

### **What is the impact of this change?**

Healthy Blue will ensure that the new rates are reflected in our systems by July 31, 2019. Any claims received with dates of service between the July 1, 2019, effective date and July 31, 2019, will be recycled to pay at the correct rate; these claims will be recycled no later than August 15, 2019.

### **What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at **1-844-521-6942**.

**<https://providers.healthybluelouisiana.com>**

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BLAPEC-1399-19 July 2019