

LOUISIANA

Changes Made in 2003 Appear in Bold

1. WAGE/BENEFIT ENHANCEMENTS		2. TRAINING AND OTHER INITIATIVES	3. TASK FORCES & COMMISSIONS
<p>Wages (includes wage pass-throughs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB 71 - Investment earnings from Medicaid Trust Fund for Elderly to be used for wage enhancement for direct-care workers in certified nursing homes Case mix reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities effective 1/1/03 provides for nursing wage and staff enhancement add-on 	<p>Benefits</p>	<p>(Includes career ladders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursing Home and Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR's) providers are being trained on reporting Abuse, Neglect, Misappropriation and Injuries of Unknown Origin, and the on-line submission of these reports. Nursing facilities are reimbursed the allowable cost of provider-based certified nursing assistant education, per cost report audit. 	
4. STAFFING RATIOS	5. SYSTEMS CHANGE GRANT WORKFORCE INITIATIVES	6. OTHER INITIATIVES NOT COVERED ABOVE	
<p>LA Licensure Standards, Sec. 9811</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.5hr/pt day Medicaid NH ratios: <p>Intermediate Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.35 hrs p/day <p>Skilled Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.60 hrs/day Licensed nurse working 24 hours/day New rules are being developed regarding staffing requirements for nursing facilities. This is due to the implementation of a case mix reimbursement methodology. In the interim the standard has been set at 2.5 nursing hours per resident per day (nursing hours include RN, LPN & CNA). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workforce development initiative was undertaken and is being implemented for Louisiana as part of the Real Choice System Change Grant. Through the System Change Planning process the Work Force Development Project has a subcommittee that includes culture, training, career ladders, recruitment/retention, wages and benefits, and other initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB 445 (2001) – Requires Department of Health and Hospitals to establish case mix reimbursement methodology for Medicaid funded nursing home care based on inclusion of certain criteria (acuity based system, achievement of quality outcomes, incentives to encourage admission of heavy care patients, recruit qualified employees, etc). Case mix reimbursement methodology for Medicaid funded nursing facilities was implemented on 1/1/03. New Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program Standards for Participation for providers have been developed and published in the Louisiana Register Vol. 29, No. 09 (9/30/03). New prospective payment system for Adult Day Health Care has been implemented. 	