

State of Mississippi

**POLICY REGARDING PAYMENT FOR RESERVING BEDS DURING A RECIPIENT'S
ABSENCE FROM A LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY**

Reserved Bed Days Payments

The Division of Medicaid will reimburse a long-term care facility for bed days held for Title XIX beneficiaries under the following conditions and limitations.

A. Hospital Leave

Facilities will be reimbursed a maximum of fifteen (15) days for each hospital stay for residents requiring acute hospital care. Residents must receive continuous acute care during acute hospital leave. Should a resident be moved from an acute care hospital bed to a bed in the hospital that is certified for a less than acute care service, the Medicaid program may not be billed for any period of time in which services other than acute care services are received by the resident. The period of leave will begin the calendar day the resident was admitted to an inpatient hospital for continuous acute care. A new leave of absence for hospitalization does not begin until the resident returns to the facility for a period of twenty-four (24) hours or longer.

The facility must reserve the hospitalized resident's bed in anticipation of his/her return. The bed may not be filled with another resident during the covered period of hospital leave. Facilities which submit hospital bed hold may not refuse to readmit a resident from the hospital when the resident has not been hospitalized for more than fifteen (15) consecutive days and still requires nursing facility services.

Each facility must establish and follow a written bed-hold and resident return policy which conforms to requirements of the Medicaid State Plan and other state and federal regulations. Hospital leave days may not be billed if the facility refuses to readmit the resident under their resident return policy. Repayment will be required of a facility which bills Medicaid for fifteen (15) consecutive days of hospital leave, discharges the resident, and subsequently refuses to readmit the resident under their resident return policy when a bed is available. Leave days must be billed in accordance with the applicable Mississippi Division of Medicaid Provider Billing Handbook and Administrative Code.

B. Home/Therapeutic Leave

The Division of Medicaid will reimburse long-term care facilities for home/therapeutic leave days with limits per resident, per state fiscal year (July 1 - June 30), as determined by the Mississippi State Legislature. Nursing Facility residents are allowed forty-two (42) days per state fiscal year in addition to Christmas Day, the day before Christmas, the day after Christmas, Thanksgiving Day, the day before Thanksgiving and the day after Thanksgiving. Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) residents are allowed sixty-three (63) days per state fiscal year in addition to

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Christmas Day, the day before Christmas, the day after Christmas, Thanksgiving Day, the day before Thanksgiving and the day after Thanksgiving. Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) residents are allowed eighteen (18) days per state fiscal year. Leave days must be determined, authorized and billed in accordance with the applicable Mississippi Division of Medicaid Provider Billing Handbook and Administrative Code. Therapeutic leave days must be included in the resident's plan of care in accordance with 42 C.F.R § 447.40.

C. Bed Hold Days Payment

A facility will be paid its per diem rate for the allowed bed hold days. For purposes of calculating the case mix average of the facility, residents on allowable leave will be classified at the lower of the case mix weight as computed for the resident on leave using the assessment being utilized for payment at the point in time the resident starts the leave, or a case mix score of 1.000.