



Amino Acid–Based Elemental Formula Coverage Update

Effective January 1, 2026, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) implemented coverage criteria for amino acid–based elemental formulas for Medicaid beneficiaries. Amino acid–based elemental formula is a covered Medicaid benefit regardless of the method of administration. Prior authorization is required and must include the following documentation:

1. A diagnosis documented by a board-certified allergist or gastroenterologist.
2. A written physician order from the treating provider confirming that the amino acid–based elemental formula is medically necessary for the treatment of a child due to one or more of the following conditions:
 - Immunoglobulin E (IgE)–mediated or non-IgE–mediated allergies to multiple food proteins;
 - Severe food protein–induced enterocolitis syndrome (FPIES);
 - Eosinophilic disorders, confirmed by biopsy results; or
 - Impaired nutrient absorption resulting from conditions affecting the absorptive surface, functional length, or motility of the gastrointestinal tract.

The [Durable Medical Equipment \(DME\) Provider Manual](#) has been updated to include coverage provisions for amino acid–based elemental formulas in Section 18.2.11, Enteral Nutrition.

For questions related to this policy update, providers may contact LDH at (225) 342-5691.

For fee-for-service claims questions, contact Gainwell Technologies Provider Relations at (800) 473-2783 or (225) 924-5040.

LDH has published Informational Bulletin 26-07 for your reference [IB26-07.pdf](#).

For questions or concerns regarding any bulletin, contact UnitedHealthcare Community Plan at 1-866-675-1607.