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**CHAPTER 24: HOSPICE**

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**SECTION 24.1: BENEFICIARY REQUIREMENTS****PAGE(S) 1**

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### **BENEFICIARY REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible to elect hospice, a beneficiary must meet all Louisiana Medicaid eligibility criteria and be certified as terminally ill. “Terminally ill” is defined as a medical prognosis of limited expected survival, of approximately six months or less at the time of referral to a hospice, of an individual who is experiencing an illness for which therapeutic strategies directed toward cure and control of the disease alone are no longer appropriate.

Both the BHSF-Form Hospice-CTI (Certification of Terminal Illness) (See Appendix B) and the BHSF-Form Hospice-NOE (Notice of Election) (See Appendix A) must be completed, and a plan of care must be established. Prior authorization requirements stated in Section 24.6 – *Prior Authorization* of this chapter are applicable to all election periods.

#### **Medicare and Medicaid (Dual Eligibles)**

If the beneficiary is eligible for Medicare as well as Medicaid, the hospice care must be either elected or revoked simultaneously under both programs. Medicare is the primary payer.