

November 18, 2015
Announcement 1011

Services for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Update

On July 7, 2014, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released guidance (CIB 07-07-2014) on approaches available under the federal Medicaid program for providing medically necessary diagnostic and treatment services to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). CMS is not singling out Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) or any other specific treatment in its directive to states, but is indicating the services must be comprehensive and include behavioral intervention.

The Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is proposing coverage for ABA services for categorically needy individuals under age 21, identifying Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) as the coverage authority. Currently, Nevada Medicaid covers screenings under EPSDT. See [Web Announcement 892](#) for details.

Upcoming Activities:

- Provider enrollment and credentialing is now open. Provider enrollment checklists are online on the [Provider Type 85 Applied Behavior Analysis \(ABA\) enrollment checklist](#) webpage. See Web Announcements 940 and 951 for enrollment instructions.
- Prior authorization and billing training sessions for providers will be scheduled for the fall of 2015. Please check web announcements at www.medicaid.nv.gov for details.
- The PT 85 Billing Guideline will be posted under Billing Guidelines (by Provider Type) on the [Billing Information](#) webpage.
- A Public Hearing was held on the Policy State Plan Amendment (SPA), Rates State Plan Amendment (SPA), and the medical coverage policy on October 19, 2015. See the DHCFP [Public Notices](#) webpage for details.
- Policy and Rates SPA's will be submitted for CMS approval. CMS has 90 days for comment.
- Ongoing information regarding the medical coverage policy development for ABA services can be found on the DHCFP ABA webpage at: <http://dhcfp.nv.gov/Pgms/CPT/ABA/>.
- ABA services are anticipated to be effective January 1, 2016. Any billing for services provided prior to the effective date are non-reimbursable by Nevada Medicaid.