

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

SPA 18-C: Audiology and Speech & Language Pathology, Physical and Occupational Therapies – HIPAA Billing Code and Reimbursement Update

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after January 1, 2018, SPA 18-C will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to incorporate the 2018 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) changes (additions, deletions and description changes) to the Audiology and Speech & Language Pathology, Physical and Occupational Therapies fee schedules. The Department is making these changes to remain compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). New codes are being priced in accordance with the same methodology as existing codes priced at 57.5% of the 2018 Medicare physician fee schedule.

In addition to the HIPAA compliant update, the Department is also adding code 97127 (Development of cognitive skills, 15 min.) to those fee schedules, which is being priced at \$16.46. It is necessary to add this in order to ensure the fee schedules incorporate medically necessary services rendered in that setting.

Fee schedules are published at this link: <http://www.ctdssmap.com>, then select “Provider”, then select “Provider Fee Schedule Download.”

Fiscal Information

DSS estimates that this SPA will increase annual aggregate expenditures by approximately \$111,000 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 and \$27,000 in SFY 2019.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

This SPA is posted on the DSS web site at the following link: <http://portal.ct.gov/dss>. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click on “Publications” and then click on “Updates.” Then click on “Medicaid State Plan Amendments”. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS field office, at the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the SPA from DSS or to send comments about the SPA, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “SPA 18-C: Audiology and Speech & Language Pathology, Physical and Occupational Therapies – HIPAA Billing Code and Reimbursement Update”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than January 10, 2018.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
State Connecticut

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of independent therapies, including physical therapy and related services, occupational therapy and audiology and speech pathology services and the fee schedule is published at www.ctdssmap.com. From this page, go to “Provider” then to “Provider Fee Schedule Download”.

- a) Physical therapy and related services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2018 and effective for services on or after that date.
- b) Occupational therapy – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2018 and are effective for services on or after that date. Occupational therapists will be reimbursed according to the fee schedule for physical therapists.
- c) Audiology and speech pathology services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2018 and effective for services on or after that date.