

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

**SPA 23-X: HIPAA Compliance Fee Schedule Update for Physician Office & Outpatient
and Behavioral Health Clinic Fee Schedules**

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). Public comment information is at the bottom of this document.

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after October 1, 2023, SPA 23-X will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan in order to implement the changes detailed below.

This SPA incorporates the October 2023 Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) updates to the Physician Office & Outpatient and Behavioral Health Clinic fee schedules. DSS is making these changes to ensure that this fee schedule remains compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Codes that are being added to the fee schedule are being priced using a comparable methodology to other codes in the same or similar category on the same fee schedule.

Fee schedules are published at this link: <http://www.ctdssmap.com>, then select “Provider”, then select “Provider Fee Schedule Download”, then Accept or Decline the Terms and Conditions and then select the applicable fee schedule.

Fiscal Impact

DSS estimates that the HIPAA compliant update for the physician office and outpatient fee schedule will increase annual aggregate expenditures by approximately \$137,511 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024 and \$212,454 in SFY 2025.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

The proposed SPA is posted on the DSS website at this link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicaid-State-Plan-Amendments>. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS resource center, 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. Please reference “SPA 23-X: HIPAA Compliance Fee Schedule Update for Physician Office & Outpatient and Behavioral Health Clinic Fee Schedule.”

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than **October 11, 2023**.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: CONNECTICUT

(5) Physician's services – Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of physician's services. The agency's fee schedule rates were set as of ~~July~~October 1, 2023 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates are published on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program website: <https://www.ctdssmap.com>. From this web page, go to "Provider," then to "Provider Fee Schedule Download," then select the applicable fee schedule.

Person-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) practices are individual sites of independent physician groups, solo physician practices, nurse practitioner groups, and individual nurse practitioners that have met National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Level 2 or Level 3 medical home recognition or NCQA medical home recognition under the 2017 or later NCQA standards (which do not recognize specific levels of recognition). PCMH practices must comply with all NCQA PCMH requirements and all additional written department requirements, including participation in various primary care initiatives operated by the State.

The department offers a PCMH Glide Path program, which pays enhanced rates to practices that are providing some of the additional Medicaid services required for NCQA PCMH recognition. In order to qualify for Glide Path, a practice must demonstrate that it has begun providing a more advanced standard of primary care and has committed to achieving NCQA PCMH recognition in a set period of time. Glide Path practices must also comply with all additional written department requirements, including participation in various primary care initiatives operated by the State.

Beginning January 1, 2012, PCMH and Glide Path practices may be eligible for a rate add-on to the procedure codes on the physician fee schedule identified below. PCMH practices may also be eligible for retrospective annualized supplemental payments for performance incentives and performance improvement. Independent physician-led Glide Path practices with five or fewer full-time equivalent practitioners across all practice locations may also be eligible for a supplemental payment at each Glide Path phase.

(a) Glide Path and PCMH Rate Add-On: The department will pay a rate add-on for the following procedures in addition to the amounts listed for each procedure code on the physician fee schedule: 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99315, 99316, 99318, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99339, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, 99381, 99382, 99383, 99384, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99391, 99392, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99396, 99397, 99401, 99402, 99403, 99404, 99406, 99407, 99408, 99409, 99411, 99412, 99417, 99374, 99377, 99379, 99380, 96110, 99050, 99051, 99053, D0145,

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Mental Health Services Provided by Clinics - Rehabilitative Services 42 CFR 440.130(d)

Mental Health Services Provided by Privately Operated Behavioral Health Clinics and Behavioral Health Services Provided by Medical Clinics and Rehabilitation Clinics. Except as otherwise noted in the Medicaid State Plan, the state-developed fee schedule is the same for both governmental and private providers. The agency's fee schedule rates for mental health services provided by privately operated behavioral health clinics and behavioral health services provided by medical clinics and rehabilitation clinics in the rehabilitative services benefit category were set as of ~~May 12~~October 1, 2023 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates are published on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program website: <https://www.ctdssmap.com>. From this web page, go to "Provider" then to "Provider Fee Schedule Download," then select the applicable fee schedule (for mental health services provided by behavioral health clinics, select the behavioral health clinic fee schedule and refer to the applicable codes as provided by freestanding clinics; for mental health services provided by medical clinics, select the medical clinic fee schedule and refer to the codes for mental health services; and for mental health services provided by rehabilitation clinics, select the rehabilitation clinic fee schedule and refer to the codes for mental health services).

There is a separate fee schedule for private behavioral health clinics providing behavioral health services under the rehabilitative services benefit category that meet special access and quality standards, and such fees are higher than the fees available to clinics that do not meet such special standards. These clinics must accept all (100%) telephonic and walk-in referrals that present during business hours. All referrals must be screened by a trained intake worker or clinician and triaged to determine whether the referral is emergent, urgent or routine. A clinician must evaluate a client who presents at the clinic with an emergent condition within two (2) hours. Clients that undergo telephonic or walk-in screening and are determined to be in urgent need of services must be offered an appointment for an urgent face-to-face clinical evaluation with a clinician to take place within two (2) calendar days of the screening. Clients that undergo telephonic or walk-in screening and are determined to have routine needs must be offered an appointment for a routine face-to-face clinical evaluation with a clinician to take place within 14 calendar days of the screening. These clinics must have at least nine (9) extended hours per week beyond routine business hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Providers that are designated Enhanced Care Clinics and have a valid Letter of Agreement with the Department that holds them accountable to the quality standards and access standards receive the enhanced rate for all routine outpatient services provided. The state monitors the access standards on a routine basis

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