

PROVIDER ALERT

New Fee Schedules for Behavioral Health and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Providers - Effective November 1, 2021

November 2, 2021

Target Audience: All Behavioral Health Providers

In early 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into federal law. The ARPA provides support for Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) during the COVID-19 emergency by providing a 10 percent enhanced federal medical assistance percentage (eFMAP). During the 2021 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed Budget Bill (HB 588) directing Medicaid to spend at least 75 percent of federal ARPA reinvestment dollars for a one-time only provider rate increase.

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) developed a code list and analyzed the utilization of providers who would be delivering services included in the [CMS Guidance](#). For more detailed information, including the methodology used to determine the estimated fiscal impact and rate increases, please see MDH's initial [HCBS Spending Plan](#).

As such, MDH has directed Optum Maryland to implement the one-time 5.4 percent rate increase for most community-based behavioral health and ABA providers for dates of service effective November 1, 2021. The official announcement can be viewed [here](#).

Please note, procedure codes for the following services are not eligible for the 5.4 percent rate increase:

- Evaluation and Management (E&M)
- Laboratory services
- Drugs
- Gambling residential services
- Outpatient discharge services
- Therapeutic injections
- Collection of blood by venipuncture

- Housing services
- Residential crisis services.

Additionally, CMS has excluded adult residential SUD treatment and Health Homes from eligibility for the eFMAP at this time; therefore, these services are also not included in the rate increase.

Optum has implemented the increases and posted the new fee schedules. Medicaid pays the lesser of the submitted charges or the maximum covered rate. To obtain the updated rate for a service billed at the prior rate, providers may submit a corrected claim to Optum.

The new fee schedules are listed below, click each item to view the full document:

- [ABA Fee Schedule](#)
- [PRP Billing Cascade](#)
- [Individual Practitioner and OMHC Rates](#)
- [PRP and Specialty Programs Rates](#)
- [1915i Fee Schedule](#)
- [SUD Fee Schedule](#)
- [Gambling Fee Schedule](#)
- [SUD-Gambling Fee Schedule](#)
- [SUD-Gambling Residential](#)

Thank you,

Optum Maryland Team