

Up-to-Date with Alaska Medicaid

A Monthly Newsletter for Alaska Medicaid Providers

January 2019

Conduent

1835 S. Bragaw St., Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99508-3469

Web Address

<http://medicaidalaska.com>

Fraud and Abuse Hotline

907.644.5975
800.256.0930 (toll-free)

Recipient Services

907.644.6800, option 6
800.780.9972, option 2 (toll-free)

Provider Inquiry

907.644.6800, option 1
800.770.5650, option 1, 1 (toll-free)

Provider Enrollment

<https://medicaidalaska.com/portals/wps/portal/ProviderEnrollment>

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Submit Copies of All Updated Licenses, Certifications, Permits, and Grants to Conduent Upon Renewal

All provider licenses, certifications, permits, and grants must be current to prevent claims from suspending or denying. Please submit a copy of all renewed licenses, certifications, permits, and grants to Conduent as soon as you receive your updated documents. You may submit copies to Conduent by fax to 907.646.4273 or by mail to:

Conduent State Healthcare

Attn: Enrollment Services
P.O. Box 240808
Anchorage, AK 99524-0808

Questions? Contact Provider Inquiry at 907.644.6800, option 1, 1, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 1, 1.

Administrative Relief in Response to Earthquake in Southcentral Alaska

The Department of Health and Social Services is granting flexibility and administrative relief to Medicaid-enrolled providers in Southcentral Alaska who were impacted by the November 30, 2018 earthquake. For more information, please visit the [Medicaid Program Integrity](#) page to view the [Administrative Relief to Providers in the Earthquake Affected Areas](#) and the [Provider Attestation Form: Medical Records Destroyed by Disaster](#) documents.

Recipient Handbook Now Available in Five Additional Languages

The Recipient Handbook is now available in Hmong, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Tagalog. All six versions of the Recipient Handbook (including the English language version) are available on the Member tab in [Alaska Medicaid Health Enterprise](#).

Routine Venipuncture (CPT 36415) No Longer Covered

Effective February 1, 2019, routine venipuncture (CPT Code 36415) is considered incidental to the primary procedure and is no longer a separately billable procedure.

Questions? Contact Provider Inquiry at 907.644.6800, option 1, 1, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 1, 1.

Reminder: Dental Provider Revalidation Required by January 15, 2019

All dental providers are required to revalidate enrollment with Alaska Medicaid. To maintain uninterrupted claims processing and payment, complete revalidation by January 15, 2019.

Revalidation applications are available on the [Provider Revalidation](#) page.

Questions? Contact Provider Enrollment at 907.644.6800, option 2, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 3.

Notice of Alaska's Health Care Price Transparency Law (SB 105)

Alaska's new health care price transparency law requires health care providers and facilities to post the prices of their most common procedures. Despite the law's effective date of January 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Social Services will allow health care providers and facilities more time to comply with the law until implementing regulations are in effect.

For more information, see the [Notice of Alaska's Health Care Price Transparency Law](#). For the full text of the enrolled bill, see [SB105](#).

Alaska Medicaid Policy Clarification: Genetic Testing

Alaska Medicaid issued a policy clarification regarding conditions of coverage for genetic testing (CPT codes 81162 – 81599). The 12/28/2018 Alaska Medicaid Policy Clarification: Genetic Testing flyer is available on the [Provider Updates](#) page.

Alaska Medicaid Covers Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Carrier Screening Effective 1/1/2019

Effective January 1, 2019, Alaska Medicaid will cover Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Carrier Screening once per lifetime per recipient. SMA carrier screening must be billed using CPT code 81329.

For coverage conditions and additional information, see provider flyer [Alaska Medicaid Policy Update: Spinal Muscular Atrophy \(SMA\) Carrier Screening](#).

Pharmacy Program Updates – December 2018

The Alaska Medicaid December 2018 Pharmacy Program Update is now available on the [Provider Updates](#) page. In this update you will find information about pharmacy changes resulting from the work of the Alaska Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Committee, including:

- New specific clinical prior authorization criteria effective 01/15/2019.
- Criteria for existing prior authorizations have been updated effective 01/15/2019.
- New Medications have been added to the Interim Prior Authorization list effective 01/07/2019.

All Changes to Enrollment Information Must Be Reported Within 30 Days of Change

Providers must report all changes to their enrollment information within 30 days of the change. Notifications of enrollment changes must be made in writing and an original signature is required; changes will not be made based on oral requests. Use the [Update Provider Information Request Form](#) to report any change in the following:

- Ownership
- Licensure, certification, or registration status
- Federal tax identification number
- Type of service or area of specialty
- Additions, deletions, or replacements in group membership
- Mailing address or phone number
- Medicare provider identification number

Statewide Opioid Action Plan Offers Blueprint to Control Alaska's Opioid Epidemic

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services released the [2018-2022 Statewide Opioid Action Plan](#), offering a collaborative blueprint for the continued work to control Alaska's opioid epidemic. The five-year action plan, compiled by the Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention (OSMAP), was developed with broad input from multiple agencies and community partners. Six overarching goals are identified in the plan along with specific objectives and actions to reach those goals. The plan's broad public health approaches fall into three areas:

- Stronger environmental controls and improved social determinants to include: reducing the misuse of prescription opioids, limiting access to illicit drugs, and promoting mental wellness for all Alaskans
- Improved screening and management of opioid addiction as a chronic disease combined with better access to treatment and recovery services
- Preventing opioid overdose deaths through widespread availability and the appropriate use of naloxone and improved health provider and drug prescriber education

Behavioral Health Aide Coverage Changes Effective 11/1/2018

Effective November 1, 2018, the following coverage changes have been made to Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) services:

- Psychotherapy and psychiatric diagnostic codes (90832, 90834, 90837, 90846, 90847, 90791, 90849) were added to BHA Level III
- New CPT code 96127, *Brief emotional/behavioral assessment*, was added for all BHA levels
- New CPT codes 90839, 90840 for crisis-related psychotherapy were added to BHA Level III and BH Practitioner

Providers are reminded to review the appropriate [Behavioral Health Aide fee schedule](#) prior to rendering services to ensure the service is covered for the BHA's certification level on the date of service.

Questions? Please contact Provider Inquiry at 907.644.6800, option 1, 1, or 800.770.5650, option 1, 1, 1 (toll-free in Alaska).

Medicaid Regulations Filed: Payment Rates for Behavioral Health Services

New Medicaid behavioral health services rate regulations were adopted by the Department of Health and Social Services, filed by the Lieutenant Governor, and are effective January 1, 2019. The signed regulations are available at [Online Public Notice website](#).

DHSS Regulations Filed: Disease Monitoring, Control, and Reporting

New and revised regulations related to the monitoring, control, and reporting of diseases of public health importance were adopted by the Department of Health and Social Services, signed by the Lieutenant Governor, and are effective November 30, 2018. A copy of the signed regulations is available at [Online Public Notice website](#).

Holiday Closures

The State of Alaska offices will be closed Monday, January 21, 2019 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Monday, February 18, 2019 in observance of Presidents' Day.

Provider Training Dates

In December, training is scheduled in Anchorage and via Instructor-led Webinar.

January	
Webinar	January 22 — 24
Anchorage	January 29 — 31

Register Today!

Alaska Medicaid training courses will guide you and your staff in understanding and billing for services reimbursed by Alaska Medicaid and Denali KidCare. Included are introductory courses such as Member Eligibility, Adjustments and Voids, Claims Management, and Service Authorizations. Register online through the [Alaska Medicaid Learning Portal](#).