

Up-to-Date with Alaska Medicaid

A Monthly Newsletter for Alaska Medicaid Providers

January 2020

Conduent

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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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Message from the Director: Adult Enhanced Dental Program Funding Restored

I'm happy to inform you that funding for the Alaska Medicaid adult enhanced dental program has been restored. Reinstatement of the program will occur on December 31, 2019 retroactively to October 1, 2019. The adult enhanced dental was previously defunded effective October 1, 2019. Medicaid recipients have been notified via direct mail that funding has been restored. For more information, refer to the December 17, 2019 provider flyer

Message from the Director: Adult Enhanced Dental Program Funding Restored, available on the [Provider Updates](#) page.

Sincerely,

Renee Gayhart, Director

Join Us for the Alaska Medicaid DME Quarterly Update Teleconference!

On January 8, 2020, Alaska Medicaid will host a quarterly teleconference for DME providers. The State of Alaska would like to take this opportunity to share upcoming program changes and provide clarification to existing policies. This quarter's agenda includes billing KU modifiers, the introduction of true 13-month capped rentals, and the newest interim fee schedule.

To join the teleconference, use the meeting link below and follow the instructions to connect.

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

AKST Meeting Link:

<https://stateofalaska.webex.com/stateofalaska/j.php?MTID=m85d4e244adb9520c0ccb27ac80b0b9fa>

Meeting Number/Access Code: 803 264 399

For more details on upcoming program changes, refer to the [KU Modifier Billing Guidance](#) and [13-Month Capped Rental](#) flyers available on the Provider Updates site.

Preferred Drug List Effective February 10, 2020

The updated Alaska Medicaid Preferred Drug List, effective February 10, 2020, is available on the Division of Health Care Services [Prior Authorization](#) page. Questions or comments? Please contact Charles Semling at charles.semling@alaska.gov.

Provider Training in Anchorage and Online January 2020

Alaska Medicaid Provider Training will be available in Anchorage January 7 – 9 and online January 14 – 16. This free, instructor-led training will help providers and billers in working with Alaska Medicaid. For more information and to register for classes, send an email to Marilee.reinhart-davieau@conduent.com, or visit our Provider Training page at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/akmedicaidtraining.htm>. More training sessions will be available throughout the year online and in person at many locations in Alaska. Watch your RA messages and check our training page periodically for schedule updates.

Proposed Regulations: Medicaid Care Management Program

On December 26, 2019, the Department of Health and Social Services proposed changes to Medicaid Care Management Program regulations. The public comment period ends on February 25, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. AKT. The [proposed regulations](#) are available at [Alaska Online Public Notices](#).

Public Hearing: Medicaid Care Management Program

A public hearing regarding proposed changes to Medicaid Care Management Program regulations will be held from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. AKT on February 12, 2020 at the Frontier Building, Room 880/890, 3601 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99503, at which time oral and written comments will be accepted. The [public hearing notice](#), notice of [proposed regulations](#), and additional information are available at [Alaska Online Public Notices](#).

Alaska Medicaid Introduces Well-Child Transportation Bus Pass Program

The Department of Health and Social Services and the Municipality of Anchorage are excited to introduce the new Well-Child Transportation Bus Pass Program. Beginning February 1, 2020, free People Mover bus passes will be issued to Medicaid/Denali KidCare-eligible children and pregnant women through the Municipality of Anchorage's mTicket application. For more information, refer to provider flyer Alaska Medicaid Introduces Well-Child Transportation Bus Pass Program available on the [Provider Updates](#) page.

Questions? Please contact the Well-Child Transportation Program at 907.269.4575.

Public Scoping Meeting: Medicaid Telemedicine Regulations

A public scoping will held on January 15, 2020 at the Frontier Building, 3601 C Street, Suites 890/896, Anchorage, AK 99503. The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. AKST and will end when those who have called in or signed up participate before 4:00 p.m. AKST have had the opportunity to comment. Written suggestions, ideas, and other input will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. AKST on January 22, 2020. For more information, the [Notice of Public Scoping Meeting: DHSS Medicaid Telemedicine Regulations](#) is available at Alaska Online Public Notices.

Procedure Codes A4450, A4452, and A5120 Require Modifiers AU, AV, or AW

Per CMS and the Alaska Medicaid DMEPOS fee schedule adopted by regulation and effective 7/2/19, procedure codes A4450, A4452, and A5120 may not be submitted as unmodified codes.

- A4450 and A4452 require a modifier AU, AV, or AW
- A5120 requires a modifier AU or AV

Health Enterprise has been updated to accept modifiers AU, AV, and AW where applicable. Providers must submit the appropriate modifier for these codes when requesting a service authorization or submitting claims. Any service authorization requests or submitted claims for unmodified procedure codes A4450, A4452, and A5120 will be denied.

Adult Enhanced Dental Program Reinstated Effective December 31, 2019

On December 13, 2019, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services issued a [press release](#) announcing the reinstatement of the Alaska Medicaid adult preventive dental program (also known as the Adult Enhanced Dental Program) **effective December 31, 2019**. Prior to the effective date a remittance advice message will be issued to provide you with more details.

Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy Treatment Plan Requirements

After an initial evaluation establishes the need for physical, occupational, or speech therapy, a therapy provider has 14 days to develop a treatment plan and have the plan signed by the ordering provider. Therapy services that are not delivered in accordance the signed treatment plan are not reimbursable by Alaska Medicaid.

The signed treatment plans must specify:

- Member's diagnosis
- Anticipated treatment goals
- Type, amount, frequency, and duration of each service to be provided

The ordering provider must sign a treatment plan:

- Every six months for members under three years of age
- Annually for members three years of age or older and for members under 21 years of age
- Every 30 days for members 21 years of age or older
- When changes affect service levels

Public Hearing: Background Check Program

A public hearing regarding proposed changes to Background Check Program regulations will be held from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. AKT on January 10, 2020 at the Frontier Building, Room 880/890, 3601 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99503, at which time oral and written comments will be accepted. The [public hearing notice](#), [notice of proposed regulations](#), and additional information are available at [Alaska Online Public Notices](#).

Proposed Regulations: Background Check Program

On December 4, 2019, the Department of Health and Social Services issued a public notice announcing proposed changes to Background Check Program regulations. The public comment period ends on January 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. AKT. The [proposed regulations](#) are available at [Alaska Online Public Notices](#).

Rate Reductions for Waiver Services Will Not Take Place

The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) will not implement planned rate reductions to providers of Medicaid home and community-based waiver services. DHSS has determined that the reduction in payment rates would adversely impact delivery of waiver services.

Pharmacy Program Updates – November 2019

The Alaska Medicaid Pharmacy Program November 2019 Update is now available at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/updates.htm>. In this update you will find information about pharmacy changes resulting from the work of the Alaska Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Committed, including:

- New specific clinical prior authorization criteria effective 01/06/2020.
- Updates to existing prior authorization criteria effective 01/06/2020.
- New Medications have been added to the Interim Prior Authorization list updated 11/15/2019.
- New ICD-10 prior authorization bypass functionality for select drugs and drug classes effective 01/06/2020

Holiday Closures

The State of Alaska and Conduent offices will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2020 in observance of New Year's Day. The State of Alaska offices will be closed Monday, January 20, 2020 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of Presidents' Day.

Proposed Regulations: Medicaid Pharmacy Preferred Drug List and Prior Authorization List

On November 22, 2019, the Department of Health and Social Services issued a public notice announcing proposed changes to the Alaska Medicaid preferred drug list and prior authorization medication list. The public comment period ends on January 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. AKT. The [proposed regulations](#) are available at [Alaska Online Public Notices](#).

How to Subscribe to Alaska Medicaid Regulations Notices

The Department of Health and Social Services encourages Medicaid-enrolled providers to stay apprised of State of Alaska public notices regarding Medicaid covered services and reimbursement rates, public meetings, and other topics that affect providers. Alaska Medicaid has published instructions for subscribing to email notifications from the State of Alaska, including the Department of Health and Social Services. You can subscribe to specific topics (adopted regulations, agency meetings, etc.) or all notices sent from DHSS. The instruction document titled How to Subscribe to Receive Public Notices is available on the [Provider Reference](#) page.

Effective 1/1/2020, Temporary Code S8120 for O2 Gas Contents No Longer Covered

Effective January 1, 2020, Alaska Medicaid will no longer cover temporary HCPCS code S8120, *Oxygen contents, gaseous, 1 unit equals 1 cubic foot*.

Alaska Medicaid will continue coverage of oxygen contents using the permanent monthly HCPCS codes E0441, E0442, E0443, and E0444 as appropriate. Service authorization is still required for all oxygen content requests. Oxygen contents, portable or stationary, are not covered concurrently with all-inclusive stationary oxygen system rentals, oxygen concentrator rentals, or portable oxygen compressor rentals (E0424, E0433, E0439, E1390, E1391, E1392, and K0738).

Alaska Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training and Information

Alaska Medicaid providers are among many individuals identified by Alaska state law as **mandatory reporters** of suspected child abuse or neglect. To learn more about mandatory reporting and associated responsibilities, providers are encouraged to complete Alaska Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training offered by the Alaska DHSS.

If you know of a child who may be at risk of abuse or neglect, call **800.478.4444** or email reportchildabuse@alaska.gov.

To learn more about mandatory reporting and associated responsibilities, providers are encouraged to complete [Alaska Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training](#) offered by the Alaska DHSS.

For more information on child abuse reporting in Alaska, refer to the [Report Child Abuse in Alaska website](#).

Provider Training Dates

In January, training is scheduled in Anchorage and via Instructor-led Webinar. In February, training is scheduled in Juneau and via instructor-led Webinar. In March, training is scheduled in Fairbanks, Kenai, the Mat-Su Valley, and via Instructor-led Webinar.

January	
Anchorage	January 7 — 9
Webinar	January 14 — 16
February	
Webinar	February 4 — 6
Juneau	February 25 — 27
March	
Fairbanks	March 3 — 5
Webinar	March 17 — 19
Mat-Su	March 24 — 26
Kenai	March 31 — April 2

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](#).