Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN [NP/CNS])

CSHCN Services Program Provider Manual

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TEXAS
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ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (APRN [NP/CNS])

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8.1 Enrollment

To enroll in the CSHCN Services Program, an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) (e.g., nurse practitioner [NP], clinical nurse specialist [CNS]) must be actively enrolled in Texas Medicaid, licensed as a registered nurse, and recognized as an APRN by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON). APRNs may enroll as a CSHCN Services Program provider by completing the provider enrollment application available through the Provider Enrollment and Management System (PEMS). Out-of-state APRNs must meet all these conditions and be located in the United States within 50 miles of the Texas state border.

Important: *CSHCN Services Program providers are responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with the laws, administrative rules, and policies of the CSHCN Services Program and Texas Medicaid.*

By enrolling in the CSHCN Services Program, providers are charged not only with knowledge of the adopted CSHCN Services Program agency rules published in Title 26 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), but also with knowledge of the adopted Medicaid agency rules published in 1 TAC, Part 15, and specifically including the fraud and abuse provisions contained in Chapter 371.

CSHCN Services Program providers also are required to comply with all applicable laws, administrative rules, and policies that apply to their professions or to their facilities. Specifically, it is a violation of program rules when a provider fails to provide health-care services or items to recipients in accordance with accepted medical community standards and standards that govern occupations, as explained in 1 TAC §371.1659 for Medicaid providers, which also applies to CSHCN Services Program providers as set forth in 26 TAC §351.6(b)(1). Accordingly, CSHCN Services Program providers can be subject to sanctions for failure to deliver, at all times, health-care items and services to recipients in full accordance with all applicable licensure and certification requirements. These include, without limitation, requirements related to documentation and record maintenance, such that a CSHCN Services Program provider can be subject to sanctions for failure to create and maintain all records required by his or her profession, as well as those required by the CSHCN Services Program and Texas Medicaid.

Refer to: Section 2.1, "Provider Enrollment" in Chapter 2, "Provider Enrollment and Responsibilities" for more detailed information about CSHCN Services Program enrollment procedures.

Certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) should refer to Chapter 12, "Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)" for information specific to their practice.

8.2 Benefits, Limitations, and Authorization Requirements

Services provided by APRNs are benefits if the services are:

- Within the scope of practice for APRNs, as defined by Texas state law.
- Consistent with rules and regulations promulgated by the Texas BON or other appropriate state licensing authority.
- Benefits of the CSHCN Services Program when provided by a licensed physician (doctor of medicine [MD] or doctor of osteopathy [DO]).
- Reasonable and medically necessary as determined by DSHS or its designee.

APRNs who are employed or paid by a physician, hospital, facility, or other provider must not bill the CSHCN Services Program for their services, if the billing results in duplicate payment for the same services.

Physicians who submit a claim using the physician's own National Provider Identifier (NPI) for services provided by an APRN must submit modifier SA on each claim detail if the physician does not make a decision regarding the client's care or treatment on the same date of service as the billable medical visit.

All limitations applicable to physicians for the same service will also be applied to the APRN.

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8.2.1 Authorization Requirements

Authorization and prior authorization requirements are listed in individual sections of this manual. Authorization requirements applied to services provided by physicians (MD or DO) also apply to services provided by APRNs.

Refer to: Chapter 4, "Prior Authorizations and Authorizations" for detailed information about authorization and prior authorization requirements.

Section 31.2.12, "Clinician-Directed Care Coordination Services" in Chapter 31, "Physician" for information and prior authorization requirements for clinician-directed care coordination services.

8.3 Claims Information

APRN services must be submitted to TMHP in an approved electronic format or on the CMS-1500 paper claim form. Providers may purchase CMS-1500 paper claim forms from the vendor of their choice. TMHP does not supply the forms.

When completing a CMS-1500 paper claim form, all required information must be included on the claim, as TMHP does not key any information from claim attachments. Superbills, or itemized statements, are not accepted as claim supplements.

The Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)/Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes included in policy are subject to National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) relationships. Exceptions to NCCI code relationships that may be noted in CSHCN Services Program medical policy are no longer valid. Providers should refer to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) NCCI web page for correct coding guidelines and specific applicable code combinations. In instances when CSHCN Services Program medical policy quantity limitations are more restrictive than NCCI Medically Unlikely Edits (MUE) guidance, medical policy prevails.

Refer to: Chapter 41, "TMHP Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)" for information about electronic claims submissions.

Chapter 5, "Claims Filing, Third-Party Resources, and Reimbursement" for general information about claims filing.

Section 5.7.2.4, "CMS-1500 Paper Claim Form Instructions" in Chapter 5, "Claims Filing, Third-Party Resources, and Reimbursement" for instructions on completing paper claims. Blocks that are not referenced are not required for processing by TMHP and may be left blank.

8.4 Reimbursement

APRNs may be reimbursed the lower of the billed amount or 92 percent of the amount allowed by Texas Medicaid for the same service provided by a physician. Physicians may be reimbursed 92 percent of the established reimbursement rate for services provided by an APRN if the physician does not make a decision regarding the client's care or treatment on the same date of service as the billable medical visit. Exceptions to the 92 percent reimbursement methodology for APRNs and physicians include injections, laboratory services, radiology services, and immunizations.

For fee information, providers can refer to the Online Fee Lookup (OFL) on the TMHP website at www.tmhp.com.

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The CSHCN Services Program implemented rate reductions for certain services. The OFL includes a column titled "Adjusted Fee" to display the individual fees with all percentage reductions applied. Additional information about rate changes is available on the TMHP website at www.tmhp.com/resources/rate-and-code-updates/rate-changes.

Note: *Certain rate reductions including, but not limited to, reductions by place of service, client type program, or provider specialty may not be reflected in the Adjusted Fee column.*

8.5 TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center

The TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 1-800-568-2413 is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Central Time, and is the main point of contact for the CSHCN Services Program provider community.

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