

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

March 17, 2023

Lynnette R. Rhodes, Esq.
Executive Director, Medical Assistance Plans
Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree St., 36th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: GA State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0006

Dear Executive Director Rhodes:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 22-0006. This amendment seeks to add Behavioral Support Aides as a new service in the state of Georgia. This new service will provide in home behavioral support aides to children in the home and community-based setting with an effective date of July 1, 2022.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in CFR 42 CFR 440.182 State Plan Home and Community-Based Services. This letter is to inform you that Georgia's Medicaid SPA 22-0006 was approved on March 17, 2023, with an effective date of July 1, 2022. Enclosed are copies of the approved CMS-179 summary form and approved SPA pages.

If you have any questions, please contact Etta Hawkins at (404) 562-7429 or via email at Etta.Hawkins@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Ruth A. Hughes, Acting Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures
cc: Brian Dowd

13d. EPSDT Related Rehabilitative Services- Behavioral Support Aide Services

Behavioral Support Services are one-to-one, face-to-face, behavior management intervention and stabilization services in home or community settings designed to teach and reinforce behavioral goals through training and direct support. Services will be authorized according to medical necessity criteria and require prior authorization.

- (1) Behavioral Support Aide Services are provided to eligible members based on medical necessity. Behavioral Support Aides utilize clinically validated practices to identify functions of target behaviors. Behavioral Support Aides monitor the member's behavior, assist with crisis intervention, provide social skills training, prevent the occurrence of problem/challenging behaviors, utilize crisis intervention strategies, teach appropriate functionally equivalent replacement behavior, react therapeutically to problematic behavior, and assess the success of the intervention through progress monitoring. Family support services aid the parent/primary care giver with knowledge and skills to address specific infant/young child medical, behavioral, and/or developmental treatment needs.

The following practitioner types are authorized to provide Behavioral Support Aide Services:

- (1) Registered Behavior Technician (RBT):
Paraprofessional who implements the service plan under supervision of a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA/BCBA-D) or Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA).
Education and Training Requirements: High School Diploma or Equivalent and Completion of 40-hour RBT training course. Must be supervised by a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA/BCBA-D) or a Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) (See Attachment 3.1-A-Autism Spectrum Disorder Services)
- (2) Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), trained by an RBT/BCBA:
Education and Training Requirements: Certified Nursing Assistance Certificate or pass status for a written competency examination approved by the National League of Nursing, Community and Home Accreditation Program (CHAP); or Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (JCAHO); or National Home Care (NAHC)

POLICY AND METHODS FOR ESTABLISHING RATES FOR OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE

EPSDT Behavioral Support Aides (EPSDT Related Rehabilitative Services- Behavioral Support Aide Services, Attachment 3.1-A)

The Department will reimburse for Behavioral Support Aide Services provided to persons under age 21, billed utilizing the following codes:

1. S9122 U1

Reimbursement is based upon an established fee schedule which can be located at <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Fee%20Schedules/tabId/20/Default.aspx>.

The established fee schedule is effective on July 1, 2022. The fee schedule is the same for governmental and non-governmental providers.

TN No.: 22-0006

Supersedes

Approval Date: March 17, 2023 Effective Date: July 1, 2022

TN No.: New