

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: August 5, 2024

Subject: [Informational Bulletin 24-25](#): Expansion of Mental Health Professionals

Informational Bulletins that summarize policies and/or procedures are intended for quick reference and are accurate on the date they are issued.

Expansion of Mental Health Professionals

Pending federal approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Louisiana Medicaid will reimburse services delivered by provisionally licensed professional counselors (PLPC), provisionally licensed marriage and family therapists (PLMFT), and licensed master social workers (LMSW). The Louisiana Department of Health requested an effective date of **August 1, 2024**, via State Plan Amendment (SPA) submission to CMS.

Following CMS approval, which is projected to occur around **September 1, 2024**, the rates for PLPCs, PLMFTs and LMSWs will be added to the Specialized Behavioral Health Services (SBHS) fee schedule and an update will be provided via this Informational Bulletin once received.

Allowable services are to be billed using appropriate Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes listed below. PLPCs, PLMFTs, and LMSWs shall practice within the scope of practice of their respective Louisiana professional licensing board and shall be rendering providers only. Any claim billed independently by a PLPC, PLMFT, or LMSW will be denied.

| Code | Description | Age | Licensed MSW (Modifier U4) | Provisionally LPC/ LMFT (Modifier UA) |
|-------|--|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 90785 | INTERACTIVE COMPLEXITY, ADD ON | 0+ | \$2.06 | \$2.06 |
| 90791 | PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATION | 0+ | \$65.03 | \$65.03 |
| 90832 | PSYCHOTHERAPY, 30 MINUTES WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 0+ | \$28.59 | \$28.59 |
| 90834 | PSYCHOTHERAPY, 45 MINUTES WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 0-20 | \$40.25 | \$40.25 |
| 90834 | PSYCHOTHERAPY, 45 MINUTES WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 21+ | \$41.86 | \$41.86 |
| 90837 | PSYCHOTHERAPY, 60 MINUTES WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 0-20 | \$59.27 | \$59.27 |
| 90837 | PSYCHOTHERAPY, 60 MINUTES WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 21+ | \$46.04 | \$46.04 |
| 90839 | PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR CRISIS; FIRST 60 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$74.16 | \$74.16 |

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|-------|--|------|---------|---------|
| 90839 | PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR CRISIS; FIRST 60 MINUTES | 21+ | \$75.32 | \$75.32 |
| 90840 | PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR CRISIS; EACH ADDITIONAL 30 MINUTE ADD ON | 0-20 | \$36.90 | \$36.90 |

| Code | Description | Age | Licensed MSW (Modifier U4) | Provisionally LPC/ LMFT (Modifier UA) |
|-------|---|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 90840 | PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR CRISIS; EACH ADDITIONAL 30 MINUTE ADD ON | 21+ | \$30.13 | \$30.13 |
| 90846 | FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY WITHOUT PATIENT PRESENT | 0+ | \$37.57 | \$37.57 |
| 90847 | FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY WITH PATIENT PRESENT | 0+ | \$46.60 | \$46.60 |
| 90853 | GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY | 0+ | \$13.23 | \$13.23 |
| 96156 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT/REASSESSMENT | 0-20 | \$7.86 | \$7.86 |
| 96156 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT/REASSESSMENT | 21+ | \$9.82 | \$9.82 |
| 96158 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, INDIVIDUAL, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$14.47 | \$14.47 |
| 96158 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, INDIVIDUAL, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 21+ | \$18.10 | \$18.10 |
| 96159 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, INDIVIDUAL, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$7.24 | \$7.24 |
| 96159 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, INDIVIDUAL, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 21+ | \$9.05 | \$9.05 |
| 96164 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, GROUP, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$3.47 | \$3.47 |
| 96165 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, GROUP, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$1.73 | \$1.73 |
| 96164 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, GROUP, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 21+ | \$4.33 | \$4.33 |
| 96165 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, GROUP, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 21+ | \$2.17 | \$2.17 |
| 96167 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, FAMILY WITH PATIENT PRESENT, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$14.22 | \$14.22 |
| 96167 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, FAMILY WITH PATIENT PRESENT, FACE-TO-FACE; FIRST 30 MINUTES | 21+ | \$17.76 | \$17.76 |
| 96168 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, FAMILY WITH PATIENT PRESENT, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 0-20 | \$7.11 | \$7.11 |
| 96168 | HEALTH BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION, FAMILY WITH PATIENT PRESENT, FACE-TO-FACE; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES | 21+ | \$8.88 | \$8.88 |

The Outpatient Therapy by Licensed Practitioners section of the Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual will be updated to reflect policy and additional billing guidance associated with services provided by PLPCs, PLMFTs, and LMSWs. Monitor [Medicaid Provider Resources](#) for updated versions of the SBHS fee schedule and provider manual.

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is updating our claims processing systems to properly adjudicate behavioral health claims for PLPCs, PLMFTs, and LMSWs, which should be complete by **September 29, 2024**.

What do you need to do?

For dates of service on or after **August 1, 2024**, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will recycle any claims that were not paid in accordance with these changes within 15 days of implementing the system changes. Providers do not need to take action.

For full details, please see [Informational Bulletin 24-25](#).

Questions regarding this message should be directed to AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007. The Provider Services Department can be reached daily between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

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Need to update your provider information? Send full details to: network@amerihealthcaritasla.com.