

Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Bureau of Policy and Program Development

HealthChoices Behavioral Health

Policy Clarification

Issue Clarification #: 07-09
Date of Receipt: 10/13/09

Applicability: All Zones
Source Documentation: PS&R

Submitted by: *Juvenile Court Judges Commission, Dave McAdoo on behalf of the SW-6 and NW-3 Administrators, and other stakeholders*

Topic Area: *Payment for drug and alcohol outpatient counseling services provided in schools and homes.*

Question/Issue:

What is the process to provide and pay for drug and alcohol outpatient counseling services delivered in schools or homes to individuals under the age of 21 in the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Program?

Background/Context Provided within the Request:

The counties have requested clarification regarding payment for drug and alcohol counseling services provided by a licensed drug and alcohol outpatient clinic in school or home settings for individuals under the age of 21.

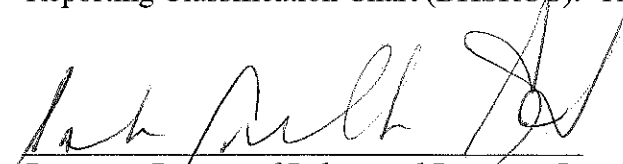
OMHSAS Answer/Response:

Medically necessary drug and alcohol counseling services provided by a licensed drug and alcohol outpatient clinic can be provided in schools and at the recipient's home as an approved supplemental service. Supplemental services are mental health and drug and alcohol services that are not part of the capitated In-Plan benefit package and may be purchased in lieu of or in addition to an In-Plan service.

To become a provider of drug and alcohol outpatient treatment in an alternative setting (i.e., school or home), the provider must: be licensed as an Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Clinic by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, be enrolled in Pennsylvania's Medical Assistance (MA) Program as a Clinic - Outpatient Drug and Alcohol (provider type 08, specialty code 184), and be credentialed by the Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization (BH-MCO). The provider must then enroll as a provider of HealthChoices Supplemental Services under provider type 11 (Mental Health/Substance Abuse) and specialty code 184 (Outpatient Drug and Alcohol).

The provider works directly with the BH-MCO to complete the HealthChoices Supplemental Services Provider Enrollment Application. Providers must submit the completed Supplemental Service Application to their regional OMHSAS field office.

The procedure code for drug and alcohol counseling services provided in the school or home setting for individuals under the age of 21 will be added to the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Services Reporting Classification Chart (BHSRCC). This service will become effective January 1, 2010.


Director, Bureau of Policy and Program Development

11-9-09
Date