



Medicaid- Wisconsin

Overview

Medicaid is a program whereby federal and state governments share the cost of providing approximately 58 million needy Americans with health care coverage. To qualify for the program, states must include hospital services, prevention services, skilled nursing and home health care coverage for adults, and prevention and treatment services for children.

Unlike Medicare, Medicaid has a state funding component, and allows each state to write its own rules for medical coverage. Therefore, every state may define PA scope of practice and reimbursement rules.

State Specific Information

Enrollment/Credentialing

PAs are covered for medical services they provide to Medicaid patients in Wisconsin.

“To be Medicaid–certified, physician assistants are required to be licensed and registered pursuant to s. 448.05 and 448.07, Wis Stats., and chs. Med 8 and 14. Wis Admin.Code. All physician assistants are required to be individually certified by Wisconsin Medicaid for their services to be reimbursed.”

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Online%20Handbooks/Display/tabid/151/Default.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=50&s=1&c=1&nt=Physician%20Assistants&adv=Y>

Billing Instructions

“Physician assistants cannot independently submit claims to ForwardHealth. Claims for services provided by a physician assistant must be submitted with the physician assistant’s NPI as the rendering provider and the supervising physician’s NPI as the billing provider.”

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Online%20Handbooks/Display/tabid/151/Default.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=50&s=1&c=1&nt=Physician%20Assistants&adv=Y>

Reimbursement Rate

“Wisconsin Medicaid generally reimburses physician assistants 90 percent of the payment allowed for the physician who would have otherwise performed the services. Physician assistants are paid 100 percent of the physician’s maximum fee for Healthcheck screens, injections, immunizations, lab handling fees, and select diagnostic procedures.”

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Online%20Handbooks/Display/tabid/151/Default.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=50&s=5&c=30&nt=Physician%20Assistants&adv=Y>

First Assist at Surgery/Modifier

“When a physician assistant serves as an assistant to a surgery, modifier "80" should be indicated with the appropriate procedure code on the claim. Wisconsin Medicaid will automatically calculate the appropriate reimbursement based on the provider type performing the procedure.” Reimbursement is reported to be 90% of physician’s allowable (90% of 20%=18%).

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Online%20Handbooks/Display/tabid/151/Default.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=50&s=2&c=103&nt=Co-surgeons%20and%20Assistant%20Surgeons&adv=Y>



Supervision

Physician assistants are required to complete the [Declaration of Supervision for Nonbilling Providers](#) and mail in to Wisconsin Medicaid.

FAQ

How can I obtain more information about Medicaid reimbursement in Wisconsin?

More information about Wisconsin Medicaid policy is available from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services at (Tip: Use the Advanced Search box and type in “physician assistant”.)

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Online%20Handbooks/Display/tabid/151/Default.aspx>.

Information collected by the AAPA on Wisconsin Medicaid can be found at http://www.aapa.org/images/stories/state_medicaid/wisconsin-medicaid.pdf.

The AAPA reimbursement office staff at 703/836-2272, ext. 3218 or 3219 can also help answer questions about the Medicaid program.