



Dear UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Louisiana Behavioral Health Provider,

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Louisiana follows the fee schedule published by the Louisiana Department of Health (available on www.makingmedicaidbetter.com). As such, our policy requires that all services billed with CPT codes on the fee schedule must be rendered by an independently licensed clinician who is a Licensed Mental Health Professional (LMHP). Please refer to the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership Service Definition Manual for a full list of eligible Licensed Mental Health Professionals. Non-licensed providers may not render these services, even if being supervised by an LMHP. For example, a master’s level social worker cannot render psychotherapy and bill 90832. Additionally, only LMHPs can conduct assessments, and the LMHP must physically sign and date the assessment.

It is allowable for non-licensed providers to only render services billed with the following HCPC codes, per the Louisiana Department of Health’s published fee schedule:

Allowable HCPC Codes					
H0001	H0011	H0018	H0039	H2017	H2036
H0004	H0012	H0019	H2011	H2033	S9485
H0005	H0015	H0036	H2013	H2034	

These services may be rendered by providers with master’s level, bachelor’s level, or less than bachelor’s level education, as long as they meet the training requirements to render services within their scope of practice. Please refer to the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership Services Definition Manual for these requirements. For example, a master’s level social worker can render Psychosocial Rehabilitation services and bill H2017.

All non-licensed providers rendering services that are billed with the HCPC codes listed above must complete regularly scheduled supervision that is 1:1 with an LMHP and is documented. Providers are also responsible for ensuring non-licensed providers meet all training and experience requirements to render their services and that they maintain qualifications on an annual basis. Please refer to the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership Services Definition Manual for these requirements. This requirement includes, but is not limited to; completing the non-licensed provider training that is available on both the Louisiana Department of Health and UnitedHealthcare websites.

There are two noteworthy instances pertinent to the above and referenced as follows:

- The Louisiana Medicaid State Plan requires that “all mental health services must be medically necessary” and that “the medical necessity for services shall be determined by a licensed mental health practitioner or physician who is acting within the scope of their professional license and applicable state law.” The State Plan further states, “member’s receiving mental health rehabilitation services shall be assessed and shall have a POC developed based on that assessment.” The State Plan requires that these assessments shall be performed by a LMHP.
- Per the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership Service Definition Manual, section 4.2, a component of crisis intervention services is “A preliminary assessment of risk, mental status and medical stability and the need for further evaluation or other mental health services.” Furthermore, “The assessment of risk, mental status and medical stability must be completed by a LMHP or PIHP-designated LMHP with experience regarding this specialized mental health service, practicing within the scope of their professional license.” While the risk assessment does not need to occur before crisis intervention services are initiated, it is important that members who are in a behavioral health crisis be assessed for risk by a LMHP within a reasonable time based on the circumstances of the crisis.

Please note: we require all LMHPs to be accurate and up to date on your agency’s roster. You are required to make changes to your roster on www.providerexpress.com within 10 days of any change to your licensed staff.

If you have any questions, please contact 1.866.675.1607 or networkse@optum.com.

Thank you for being a valued partner in our network!

Sincerely,

Network Management