



Affordable Care Act enhanced reimbursement of primary care services fees and standard Medicaid fees

The Affordable Care Act provides for enhanced reimbursement of eligible primary care services for dates of service during the calendar years 2013 and 2014. This rate is applied to any physician, either medical doctors or doctors of osteopathy, who attests to a specialty or subspecialty designation within family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatric medicine and such designation is supported by board certification or at least 60% of Medicaid paid procedure codes. The enhanced reimbursement rate also applies to physician assistants (PAs) and advanced practice nurse practitioners (APRNs) working under the direct supervision of physicians who meet the criteria above.

The enhanced reimbursement fee schedules for eligible primary care services have been posted to www.lamedicaid.com, under the Fee Schedules link (see “Professional Services – ACA Primary Care Services Enhanced Reimbursement Fee Schedule”). There are currently two distinct time periods affected by these rates:

- 1/1/13 – 2/19/13, rates for services will reimburse at the Medicare rate applicable to the non-facility setting
- 2/20/13 – present, rates for services will reflect Medicare site of service adjustments (facility or non-facility)

While the majority of rates on the enhanced reimbursement fee schedule are higher than the rates on the standard Medicaid fee schedule, there are some procedure codes for which the enhanced rate is lower than the standard Medicaid rate. Specifically, for CPT codes 99201, 99202, 99211 and 99212 when provided in a facility setting, the enhanced rate is lower than the standard Medicaid rate. Providers eligible for the enhanced fee schedule will be paid exclusively the rates on the enhanced fee schedule, by both Molina and Bayou Health Prepaid Plans, regardless of whether the enhanced rate is lower than the standard Medicaid rate.

For more information, please refer to the link “ATTENTION PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS: Affordable Care Act Primary Care Services Enhanced Reimbursement Information” posted on www.lamedicaid.com.