



# ABA Provider Orientation

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Washington

United  
Healthcare®

# Agenda

1. Working Together
2. Apple Health ABA Program Member Information
3. UnitedHealthcare Autism/ABA Program Provider Credentialing
4. Providing Services
5. Fee Schedule and Payments
6. Appeals and Grievances
7. Provider Resources



# Working Together

- We work collaboratively across the health system to improve care delivery, quality and cost-effectiveness.
- Our relationship with you is foundational to the recovery and well-being of the individuals and families we serve.
- We are driven by a mission that we know you share: to help make the health care system work better for everyone.
- From risk identification to integrated therapies, our mental health and substance abuse solutions help ensure that people receive the right care at the right time from the right providers.



# Committed to serving your community.

## Customers we serve:

- 50% of the Fortune 100 and 34% of the Fortune 500
- Largest provider of global Employee Assistance Programs (EAP), covering more than 19 million lives in over 140 countries
- Local, state and federal government contracts

## Serving almost 43 million members:

- 1 in 6 insured Americans
- The largest network in the nation
- More than 140,000 practitioners; 4,200 facilities with 9,000 locations

## Simultaneous NCQA and URAC accreditation

- Staff expertise:
- Multidisciplinary team of 50 staff medical directors (e.g., child and adolescent, medical/psychiatric, Board-Certified Behavior Analysts and addiction specialists) just to name a few



# UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Washington

## Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) Integrated Managed Care (IMC)

- Our plan offers a range of physical and behavioral health benefits.
- It's for people who meet income requirements and are eligible for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) Integrated Managed Care.
- We serve pregnant women, children and young adults to age 21, families and adults.

## Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO)

- Our plan offers a range of behavioral health benefits. These include mental health services and drug or alcohol treatment.
- It's for people who meet income requirements and are eligible for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) but receive physical health services some other way.

Plan availability may vary depending on county.





**Apple Health  
ABA Program  
Member Information**

# Who is eligible for ABA services?

Members are eligible to receive applied behavioral analysis (ABA) services when they:

- Are age 21 or younger (the day treatment program is restricted to ages two through five)
- Are covered under Washington Apple Health
- Have a comprehensive evaluation and written order for ABA therapy from a recognized Center of Excellence (COE)

And meet at least one of the following:

- Have a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder, as defined by DSM-5
- Have a developmental disability for which there is evidence ABA therapy is effective



# Member ID Cards

- ID card is sent directly to the member
- The member's ID number is their Medicaid number.
- Medical and behavioral health customer service contact information is on the back of the UnitedHealthcare ID card.



Sample member ID cards for illustration only; actual information varies depending on payer, plan and other requirements.





# Member Resources, Rights and Responsibilities

## Online Resources at [UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA](https://UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA)

- Find network providers, clinicians and facilities, including behavioral health and substance use disorder services.
- Locate local resources.
- Find articles on a variety of wellness and work topics.
- Take self-assessments.
- Find the Member Handbook.

## Member Rights and Responsibilities

- Listed in the Member Handbook at [UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA](https://UHCCommunityPlan.com/WA).
- Members have the right to be treated with respect, dignity and privacy.
- They have the right to receive courteous and prompt treatment.
- Members have the right to receive cultural assistance.
- Providers can find more information about Member Rights and Responsibilities in the Care Provider Manual at [UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan](https://UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan) > Care Provider Manuals.





**UnitedHealthcare  
Autism/ABA Program  
Provider Credentialing**

# Individual BCBA's - Solo Practitioner

- Be an approved, licensed ABA provider under the state's Medicaid program as a Licensed Behavior Analyst (LBA) therapist
- Hold current Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) certification as a BCBA
- Be enrolled as a Washington Medicaid (ProviderOne) provider
- Have a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number
- Comply with all state/autism mandate requirements as applicable to behavior analysts
- Meet professional liability insurance requirements:
  - \$1 million/\$1 million for individual
  - \$1 million/\$3 million for groups



# ABA and IBT groups

- LBAs must meet solo practitioner standards and hold supervisory certification from the national Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) if in supervisory role.
- Licensed clinicians must have appropriate state licensure, Medicaid certification and six months of supervised experience or training in the treatment of ABA/intensive behavior therapies (IBT).
- Compliance with all state/autism mandate requirements, as applicable
- Agency Medicaid registration
- Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst (LABA) must have active certification from the national BACB and appropriate state licensure or graduation from a recognized bachelor's degree program under WAC-246-805-210. An official transcript must be provided.
- Certified Behavior Technicians (CBT) must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, current registration as an RBT from the national BACB or alternative national board certification and receive appropriate training and supervision by BCBAs or licensed clinicians.
- LBA or licensed clinician on staff providing program oversight
- LBA or licensed clinician performs skills assessments and provides direct supervision of behavior technicians in joint sessions with client and family
- Meet insurance requirements:
  - \$1 million/occurrence and \$3 million/aggregate of professional liability and \$1m/\$1m of general liability if services are provided in a clinic setting.
  - \$1 million/occurrence and \$3 million/aggregate of professional liability and \$1m/\$1m of supplemental insurance if the agency provides ambulatory services only (in the patient's home).





# Providing Services

# We support you so you can care for the member.

- We have a dedicated UnitedHealthcare enhanced autism and ABA clinical team to support you.
- Each team member is a licensed behavioral health clinician with experience in autism and training in ABA.
- Supervising managers are licensed psychologists and BCBA-doctorals (BCBA-D).



# Suggested patient intake procedures

## **When you meet with the member and their representative:**

- Copy the front and back of the member's ID card
- Record the member's name and date of birth

## **Verify the member's eligibility.**

- Check patient eligibility and benefits using the online tools at [UHCprovider.com/link](https://UHCprovider.com/link) or by calling the Behavioral Health number on the member's ID card.
- Ensure that the member has a COE order for services.

## **Please also ask the member or their representative for:**

- Their consent for services, including informed consent about the services and contact options
- An information release form to allow the release of patient information to other providers
- Their consent for billing using protected health information (PHI), including signature on file

## **Information to provide to the member:**

- Your Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) policies
- Your billing policies and procedures



# UnitedHealthcare's privacy policy and member release of information

- You can read more about “HIPAA Compliance – Your Responsibilities” in Chapter 10 of the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Washington Care Provider Manual at [UHCprovider.com/manuals](https://UHCprovider.com/manuals).
- We release information only to the individual, or to other parties designated in writing by the individual, unless otherwise required or allowed by law.
- Members must sign and date a release of information form for each party that the individual grants permission to access their PHI, specifying which information may be disclosed, to whom and during what period of time.
- The member may decline to sign a release of information form. This must be noted in the member's treatment record and should be honored to the extent allowable by law.
- PHI may be exchanged with a network clinician, facility or other entity designated by HIPAA for the purposes of treatment, payment or health care operations.





# Prior authorization and treatment plan requirements

## Prior Authorization

- Make sure all services receive prior authorization before beginning services, when required.
- All autism services, except for assessments and parent training, require prior authorization.
- When calling the Autism Care Advocate, you must have the member's name, ID number, date of birth and address.

## Treatment Plan

- You must submit the results of the ABA assessment and the treatment plan for any treatment requests.
- Request authorization using the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Treatment Plan form at [UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan](https://UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan) > Behavioral Health > [ABA Corner](#).
- Meet medical necessity requirements – this applies to initial and concurrent reviews.
- Provider must submit the results of the ABA assessment and the treatment plan for any treatment requests.



# Clinical review information requirements

Information for initial and concurrent reviews must include:

- Any medical or other mental health diagnoses
- Confirmation that the member has an appropriate DSM-5 diagnosis that can benefit from ABA
- Discharge criteria
- Explanation of parents' participation
- Goals must not be educational or academic in nature; they must focus only on the core deficits, such as imitation, social skills deficits and behavioral difficulties
- The member's other mental health or medical services
- The member's medications
- Must meet medical necessity

**Guided questions may include:**

- How many hours per week is member in school?
- Why IBT now?
- How long has member been in services?



# Medical necessity requirements

- Medical necessity requirement applies to initial and concurrent reviews.
- Treatment goals are:
  - Individualized
  - Measurable
  - Objective
  - Related to the core deficits
- Treatment includes:
  - Baseline and mastery criteria
  - Behavior reduction plan or crisis plan
  - Coordination of care with other providers
  - Discharge criteria
  - Parent goals
  - Relevant psychological information
  - Supervision and treatment planning hours
  - Transition plan to lower level of care





# Claims and Coding

# Claims Submission

Submit claims within 90 days of service using a CMS-1500 form (or equivalent).

## Online Submission

- Submit claims online using one of the options at [UHCprovider.com/claims](https://UHCprovider.com/claims).

## Electronic Submission

- To submit claims by Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), please use payer ID 87726.
- You can use any clearinghouse vendor to submit claims.
- Learn more at [UHCprovider.com/edi](https://UHCprovider.com/edi).

## Paper Submission

- Please submit paper claims to:

UnitedHealthcare  
P.O. Box 31361  
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0361



# Claims Tips

## All claim submissions must include:

- Member name, Medicaid ID number and date of birth
- Provider's tax ID number (TIN)
- National Provider Identifier (NPI) number
- Providers are responsible for billing, in accordance with nationally recognized CMS Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) standards. Additional information is available at [cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov).
- A complete diagnosis

## Claims Filing Deadline

- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requires that you initially submit your claim within 90 days of the date of service.

## Claims Processing

- Clean claims, including adjustments, will be adjudicated within 30 days of receipt.

## Balance Billing

- The member cannot be balance billed for behavioral services covered under the provider's contractual agreement.



# Form 1500 - Claim Form

- All billable services must be coded. Coding can be dependent on several factors:
- Include the appropriate:
  - Type of service (assessment, treatment, etc.)
  - Modifier for specific provider type
  - Rate per unit (BCBA vs. paraprofessional)
  - Place of service (home or clinic)
  - Duration of therapy (one hour vs. 15 minutes)
- Include only one date of service per line
- You must select the code that most closely describes the service(s) provided.
- Please note: Field 31 must have a rendering provider's name. Rendering supervisor (LBA/Licensed Clinician) will bill for all services by them or the LABA/CBTs/RBTs under the supervisory protocol.

**HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIM FORM**  
APPROVED BY NATIONAL UNIFORM CLAIM COMMITTEE (NUCC) 02/12

1. MEDICARE (Medicare)  MEDICAID (Medicaid)  TRICARE (TRICARE)  CHAMPVA (Member ID)  GROUP HEALTH PLAN (Group Health Plan)  FECA (FECA)  OTHER (Other)

2. PATIENT'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) \_\_\_\_\_

3. PATIENT'S BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ SEX  M  F

4. INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) \_\_\_\_\_

5. PATIENT'S ADDRESS (No. Street) \_\_\_\_\_

6. PATIENT RELATIONSHIP TO INSURED (Self, Spouse, Child, Other) \_\_\_\_\_

7. INSURED'S ADDRESS (No. Street) \_\_\_\_\_

8. RESERVED FOR NUCC USE

9. RESERVED FOR NUCC USE

10. IS PATIENT'S CONDITION RELATED TO:  YES  NO

11. INSURED'S POLICY GROUP OR FECA NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

12. PATIENT'S OR AUTHORIZED PERSON'S SIGNATURE (I authorize payment of medical benefits to the undersigned physician or supplier for services described below.) \_\_\_\_\_

13. INSURED'S OR AUTHORIZED PERSON'S SIGNATURE (I authorize payment of medical benefits to the undersigned physician or supplier for services described below.) \_\_\_\_\_

14. DATE OF CURRENT ILLNESS, INJURY, OR PREGNANCY (MM/DD/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ QUAL. \_\_\_\_\_

15. OTHER DATE (MM/DD/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ QUAL. \_\_\_\_\_

16. DATE PATIENT UNABLE TO WORK IN CURRENT OCCUPATION FROM (MM/DD/YY) TO (MM/DD/YY)

17. NAME OF REFERRING PROVIDER OR OTHER SOURCE \_\_\_\_\_

18. HOSPITALIZATION DATES RELATED TO CURRENT SERVICES FROM (MM/DD/YY) TO (MM/DD/YY)

19. ADDITIONAL CLAIM INFORMATION (Designated by NUCC)

20. OUTSIDE LAB?  YES  NO \$ CHARGES \_\_\_\_\_

21. DIAGNOSIS OR NATURE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY (Refer to service line below) (ICD-9-CM) \_\_\_\_\_

22. RESUBMISSION CODE \_\_\_\_\_ ORIGINAL REF. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

23. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

24. A. DATES OF SERVICE (From MM/DD/YY To MM/DD/YY) B. ICD-9-CM PROCEDURE, SERVICE, OR SUPPLY (Specify Unusual Circumstances) C. MODIFIER D. DIAGNOSIS POINTER E. \$ CHARGES F. DATE OF LINES G. FEE PER UNIT H. ICD-9-CM I. RENDERING PROVIDER'S #

25. FEDERAL TAX ID NUMBER (SSN) \_\_\_\_\_

26. PATIENT'S ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

27. ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT?  YES  NO

28. TOTAL CHARGE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

29. AMOUNT PAID \$ \_\_\_\_\_

30. SERVICE FACILITY LOCATION INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

31. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN OR SUPPLIER (Including Degrees or Credentials) (Specify that the statements on this invoice apply to this bill and are made a part thereof.) \_\_\_\_\_

32. BILLING PROVIDER INFO & P# \_\_\_\_\_

NUCC Instruction Manual available at: [www.nucc.org](http://www.nucc.org) PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE APPROVED OMB-0938-1197 FORM 1500 (02-12)



# Diagnostic Coding

## Proper diagnostic coding includes:

- DSM-5-defined conditions
- Current DSM diagnosis relevant to the need for behavioral therapy or has a provisional psychiatric diagnosis
- A complete diagnosis with all four digits of the diagnosis code is required on all claims using the ICD-10 coding.

## Examples of coding issues related to claims denials:

- Incomplete or missing diagnosis
- Invalid or missing Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) or CPT® codes and modifiers
- Use of codes that are not covered services
- Missing required data elements (e.g., number of units)
- Missing or incorrect provider information
- Missing the required authorization
- Units exceed authorization (e.g., 10 inpatient days were authorized but the facility billed for 11 days)

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# **Fee Schedule and Payments**

# Washington Medicaid Fee Schedule

- The Fee Schedule attached to your UnitedHealthcare Community Plan contract will have your actual rate information.



# Electronic Payment & Statements (EPS)

- EPS is the tool for your practice to receive electronic funds transfer (EFT) and electronic remittance advice (ERA) for most UnitedHealthcare benefit plans.
- You can enroll and find more information at **[UHCprovider.com/eps](https://UHCprovider.com/eps)**.

## **When you're enrolled in EPS, you'll be able to:**

- Receive claims payments by direct deposit or Virtual Card Payment (VCP) 5-7 days faster than with paper checks.
- Access explanation of benefits (EOBs) or provider remittance advice online or via 835 ERA files.
- Receive email notification when payments are deposited to your designated account.
- View your deposit amounts, along with all remittance advice associated with each deposit.
- View or print remittance advice and post payments manually to your practice management system or auto-post using the 835 ERA file.





# Appeals and Grievances

# Claims Appeals

- Appeals can be submitted 60 days from the date of the claim denial letter.
- Standard appeals will be resolved within 14 calendar days after receipt of appeal, unless notification of an extension is necessary.
- Extensions will not delay the decision beyond 28 calendar days.
- To submit an appeal, please send your request to :

UnitedHealthcare  
Attention: Formal Claim Appeals  
P.O. Box 31364  
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0364



# Member Grievances

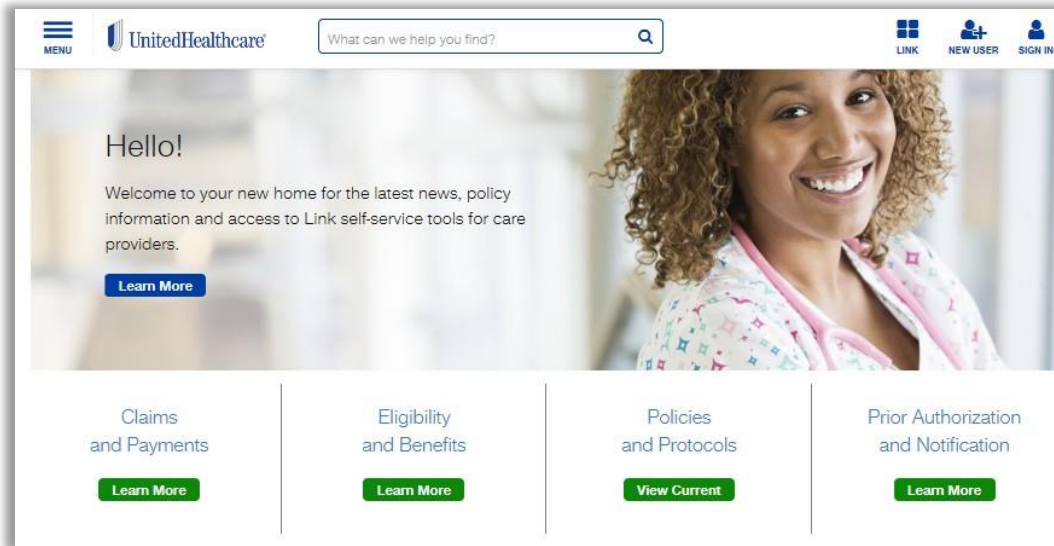
- A member or their authorized representative can file a grievance.
- Grievances can be about:
  - A provider's office
  - Bills
  - Problems obtaining services
- We'll complete our grievance review no later than 45 calendar days from when we receive the grievance.
- Submit grievances to:
  - UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
  - Provider Grievances
  - P.O. Box 31364
  - Salt Lake City, UT 84131





# Provider Resources

# UHCprovider.com



**Register at**  
**UHCprovider.com/newuser** to use Link, your gateway to UnitedHealthcare's online self-service tools.

**Find**  
administrative guides, policies and protocols.

**Access**  
the most-used transactions and information.





# Provider Services



## Phone:

866-574-6088 (select option 1)

6 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday – Friday



## Online:

[UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan](https://UHCprovider.com/WAcommunityplan) > [Behavioral Health](#) > ABA Corner

Here you can find Applied Behavior Analysis forms and resources.





**Thank you!**

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