

Medicaid Autism Applied Behavior Analysis Services

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Administration



MDHHS Autism Program

- Manage the Medicaid/MI Child Autism Benefit.
- Liaison to external stakeholders including Michigan Departments, advocacy organizations and universities
- Support families and agencies with challenges with services
- Early Intervention Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)/ Developmental Disability (DD) Pilot

MDHHS Autism Program

- Manage MDHHS autism contracts.
 - Autism Alliance of Michigan
 - 6 Michigan Universities
- Coordinate and provide state and regional autism trainings for providers, specialty organizations and conferences
- Provide support to the Autism Council

Medicaid Autism Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Services

- Medicaid Autism Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), services in the State Plan Amendment (SPA) was approved by CMS and is effective January 1, 2016.



Medicaid Autism ABA

- All children, including children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), must receive EPSDT services that are designed to assure that children receive early detection and preventive care, in addition to medically necessary treatment services to correct or ameliorate any physical or behavioral conditions, so that health problems are averted or diagnosed and treated as early as possible.

Medicaid Autism ABA

- April 1, 2013 – December 31, 2015 Michigan Medicaid covered Applied Behavior Analysis services for children with ASD from age 18 months through 5 years of age under a 1915(i) state plan authority
- Effective January 1, 2016 Michigan Medicaid provides coverage of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), for children under 21 years of age with ASD

Medicaid Autism ABA

- ABA is currently the only treatment modality covered under Behavioral Health Treatment

ABA



Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

- Comprehensive diagnostic evaluation is a neurodevelopmental review of cognitive, behavioral, emotional, adaptive, and social functioning, and should include validated evaluation tools
- Based on the evaluation, the practitioner determines the child's diagnosis, recommends general ASD treatment interventions, and refers the child for a behavior assessment

ABA Medical Necessity Criteria

- Medical necessity and recommendation for ABA is determined by a physician, or other licensed practitioner
- The child must demonstrate substantial functional impairment in social communication, patterns of behavior, and social interaction as evidenced by meeting criteria and require ABA services to address those areas

ABA Eligibility

- If the child already has a confirmed diagnosis of ASD
- Qualified licensed practitioner makes determination of medical necessity criteria and recommendation of ABA

ABA Services: Behavioral Intervention

Behavioral intervention services include, but are not limited to, the following evidence-based interventions:

- Peer-mediated social skills training
 - Functional based interventions
 - Antecedent based intervention
 - Pivotal response training
 - Reinforcement systems
 - Self-management
 - Social narratives
 - Video modeling
 - Parent training
 - Prompting
 - Chaining

ABA Services: Behavioral Intervention

- Based on the behavioral plan of care which is adjusted over time based on data collected by the BCBA or other qualified provider, the provider selects and adapts one or more of these interventions, as appropriate for each individual

BABA Services: Service Level

Actual hours needed are determined by medical necessity, person centered planning, and interventions required in the behavioral plan of care. There is no minimum or maximum hour caps

- Focused Behavioral Intervention:
 - average of **5-15 hours** per week
- Comprehensive Behavioral Intervention:
 - average of **16-25 hours** per week

ABA Services: Monitoring & Evaluation

- BCBA and other qualified providers develop, monitor, and implement the behavioral plan of care, which is part of the individual's IPOS
- Also responsible for evaluation child's skill acquisition and response to treatment **every six months**
- Requires evidence of measurable and ongoing improvements in targeted behaviors
 - ABLLS-R, VB-MAPP, AFLS, etc. and
 - Other documented analysis (i.e. graphs)

ABA Services: Behavioral Observation & Direction

- Clinical direction and oversight provided by BCBA or other qualified provider to a lower level provider (i.e. Behavior Technician)
- Must be **face to face** observation and direction regarding developmental and behavioral techniques
- Provide real time response to intervention
- Informs any modifications needed to implementation to accomplish goals in the behavioral plan of care

Telepractice for ABA Services

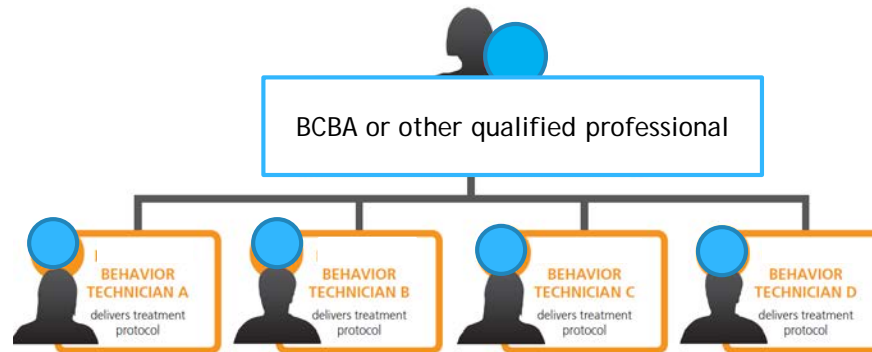
- Telepractice must be obtained through real-time interaction (face to face) between the child's physical location (patient site) and the provider's physical location (provider site).
- Available **ONLY** for parent training and behavioral observation & direction ABA services
- The patient site may be located within a center, clinic, patient's home, or any other established site deemed appropriate by the provider

ABA Service Provider Qualifications

- ABA services are highly specialized and require specific qualified providers that are available within PIHP/CMHSP provider networks
- ABA services must be provided under the direction of a BCBA, another appropriately qualified LP or LLP, or a Master's prepared Qualified Behavioral Health Professional (QBHP)

ABA Service Provider Qualifications

- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA or BCBA-D)
- Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA)
- Licensed Psychologist (LP)
- Limited Licensed Psychologist (LLP)
- Qualified Behavioral Health Professional (QBHP)
- Behavior Technician (BT)



ABA And Schools

- **BHT Service Level**

ABA servicesThese supports may serve to reinforce skills or lessons taught in school, therapy, or other settings, but are not intended to supplant services provided in school or other settings, or to be provided when the child would typically be in school but for the parent's/guardian's choice to home-school their child.

ABA And Schools

- **Eligibility requirement:**

Coordination with the school and/or early intervention program is critical. Collaboration between school and community providers is needed to coordinate treatment and to prevent duplication of services. This collaboration may take the form of phone calls, written communication logs, participation in team meetings (i.e., Individual Education Plan/Individual Family Service Plan [IEP/IFSP], Individual Plan of Service [IPOS], etc.).

Medicaid Autism ABA

- **As of January 12, 2016:**
 - 1,507 individuals approved for ABA
 - 80 individuals are over the age of 6
 - 442 children aged off since April 1, 2013
- **Priorities**
 - Increase collaboration and knowledge of ABA services
 - Increase ABA service providers
 - Enhance the skills of clinicians evaluating the new age range

Michigan Autism Successes

- **\$9M** in autism contracts in 2015.
- **\$2.5M** in autism contracts in 2016.
- Michigan now has **8 universities** offering ABA degree programs up from 2 in 2012.



MDHHS Autism Resources

- Michigan Autism Program Website
 - www.michigan.gov/autism



The screenshot shows the Michigan Autism Program Website. The header includes navigation links for "Autism Home", "MDHHS Home", and "MI.gov", along with a search bar. The main banner features a young girl, the text "Autism: Awareness, Reform and Education", the "LIGHT IT BLUE MICHIGAN" logo, and "April is Autism Awareness Month". A left sidebar contains a menu with links: "About Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)", "Resources", "Medicaid & MiChild Autism Benefit", "Autism Insurance Legislation", "Michigan ASD State Plan", "Autism Council", "Videos", "Photo Gallery", and "Contact". The main content area begins with a welcome message, followed by a paragraph about the program's establishment in 2013. A bulleted list details the program's components: Medicaid and MiChild Autism Benefit, Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorders State Plan, Autism Council, and autism services provided throughout Michigan. Below this is a goal statement and a link to a news item titled "Lt. Gov. Brian Calley celebrates Autism Awareness (Acceptance) Month". The news item includes a video player showing Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, a woman, and a child sitting on a couch.

Autism Home MDHHS Home MI.gov

Autism: Awareness, Reform and Education

LIGHT IT BLUE MICHIGAN

April is Autism Awareness Month

Search

About Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

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Medicaid & MiChild Autism Benefit

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Welcome to the Michigan Autism Program Website

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) established the Michigan Autism Program in 2013 as part of the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration to support the:

- Medicaid and MiChild Autism Benefit
- Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorders State Plan
- Autism Council
- Autism services provided throughout Michigan

It is our goal to be a leader and partner in the support of individuals with autism, their families/caregivers, and professionals servicing individuals with autism spectrum disorder to lead a quality and fulfilling life.

[Lt. Gov. Brian Calley celebrates Autism Awareness \(Acceptance\) Month](#)

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley celebrates Autism Awareness (Acce...

MDHHS Autism Program Staff

- Hailey DuBreuil, Autism Family Supports and Services Analyst
 - dubreuilh@michigan.gov
- Brie Elsasser, Autism Behavioral and Transition Specialist
 - ElsasserB@michigan.gov
- Linda Fletcher, Autism Medical Services Specialist
 - fletcherl@michigan.gov
- James Grant, Autism Program Data Analyst
 - grantj4@michigan.gov
- Lisa Grost, Autism Program Section Manager
 - grostl@michigan.gov
- Rachel Rick, Autism Program Student Assistant
 - rickr@michigan.gov
- Morgan VanDenBerg, Autism Behavioral and Early Childhood Specialist
 - vandenbergm@michigan.gov

MDHHS Autism Program Staff

**Thank you for all the
educational efforts in
Michigan!**

