

Aetna Better Health® of Texas

P O Box 569150

Dallas, TX 75356-9150

1.800.245.5380 (Tarrant CHIP) | 1.866.818.0959 (Bexar CHIP) |

1.800.306.8612 (Tarrant Medicaid) | 1.800.248.7767 (Bexar Medicaid)

www.aetnabetterhealth.com/texas



AETNA BETTER HEALTH® OF TEXAS

Dear Provider,

Notice: Rate Reduction Effective 09/01/2011

Effective September 01, 2011, rate reductions will be implemented for certain services and providers in accordance with the spending reduction plan that was part of the House Bill 1, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011. These rate reductions will be applied for the Texas Medicaid Program as appropriate. This guide will provide you with some helpful information that will assist you in communicating these updates to our provider community.

Resources

There are multiple resources available to assist TMHP team members in researching provider inquiries related to all rate reductions.

- Reimbursement Rate Change web page
- Online Fee Lookup (OFL)
- OFL Wiki work instructions

Information regarding these resources are available below.

New Reimbursement Rate Change Web Page

A new page on the portal (tmhp.com) has been created which stores all provider notifications related to rate changes in a central location. The Reimbursement Rate Change web page provides user-friendly navigation and will assist providers in finding the appropriate rate change articles in a timely manner. Refer to this web page when a provider is inquiring about a specific banner message and/or bulletin. Search for the corresponding news article by topic to locate specific information regarding the rate change.

Providers can access the Reimbursement Rate Change web page at www.tmhp.com/pages/topics/rates.aspx.

The screenshot shows the 'Providers Topics' page. The main navigation bar includes 'Texas Medicaid', 'PCCM', 'CSHCN', 'Family Planning', 'Long Term Care', and 'EDI'. The left sidebar lists various topics, with 'Reimbursement Rate Changes' highlighted. The main content area features a section titled 'Reimbursement Rate Changes' with a sub-header 'Applicable News Articles'. Below this, there is a list of news articles with their titles and dates.

Reimbursement Rate Changes

This web page includes the website articles that have been posted about changes to reimbursement rates. For current rates, providers should refer to [Online Fee Lookup](#).

Applicable News Articles

- [Procedure Code H2014 to Be a Benefit: Reimbursement Rates to Change for Targeted Case Management and Rehabilitative Services Effective September 1, 2011 - 8/4/2011](#)
- [Reimbursement Rates for Some Case Management and Specialized Skills Training for ECI Services Procedure Codes to Change Effective October 1, 2011 - 8/4/2011](#)
- [Additional Information About Reimbursement Rate Reductions - 7/29/2011](#)
- [Rate Reductions to Be Implemented for Durable Medical Equipment \(DME\) Procedure Codes Effective September 1, 2011 - 7/29/2011](#)
- [Reimbursement Rate Reductions Will Be Implemented for Some Texas Medicaid Provider Types - 7/29/2011](#)
- [Clinical Laboratory, Ambulatory Surgical Center, and Renal Dialysis Rate Reductions to Be Implemented Effective September 1, 2011 - 7/22/2011](#)
- [Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement Rate to Change - 7/22/2011](#)
- [Reduction in Outlier Calculations for Inpatient Hospital Admissions Effective September 1, 2011 - 7/22/2011](#)
- [PCCM Case Management Fee Reduction Effective September 1, 2011 - 7/21/2011](#)
- [September 2011 Changes to Rates and Benefits and to the OFL and Static Fee Schedules - 7/21/2011](#)
- [Information for Non-emergent and Non-urgent Physician E/M Emergency Department Services - 7/18/2011](#)
- [Outpatient Imaging Reimbursement to Change Effective September 1, 2011 - 7/18/2011](#)
- [Reimbursement for Non-emergent and Non-urgent E/M Emergency Department Services to Be Reduced - 7/18/2011](#)

Online Fee Lookup (OFL)

The Online Fee Lookup is an interactive tool that provides up-to-date information and historical fee information for procedure codes. The OFL will include a new column titled "Adjusted Fee." The Adjusted Fee column will display the fee with the mandated percentage reduction applied.

OFL Navigation

Follow the steps below to access the updated OFL tool that includes the new Adjusted fee column:

- 1) Select the OFL/Contracted Rates link located in the Applications section of the Intranet portal.

TMHP Applications

- [PPM \(formerly Kintana\)](#)
- [PPM Request Support](#)
- [TMHP Document Repository \(SharePoint 2007\)](#)
- [OnBase Reports](#)
- [Business Objects XI](#)
- [Prior Authorization Workflow](#)
- [SIR](#)
- [TMHP eOPM and P&Ps](#)
- [NPEye](#)
- [Firebird](#)
- [Systinet](#)
- [Online Provider Lookup](#)
- [Provider Enrollment](#)
- [Mass Adjustment / Data Correction / Rate Change](#)
- [Manage IMD Clients](#)
- [Joint Interface Partner \(JIP\) Repository](#)
- [GlobalSCAPE Secure Ad Hoc Transfer Module](#)
- [OFL/Contracted Rates](#)

2) Select Fee Search from the left navigation panel.

TMHP.com My Account
Logged in as: [sabrina.gurman](#) | [Log Off](#)

Navigation

Home
Static Fee Schedules
Online Fee Lookup
Fee Search
Batch Search
Frequently Asked Questions

FeeSchedules > Home > Online Fee Lookup > Fee Search

Online Fee Lookup Search

* denotes required field

What type of search would you like to conduct ?

Single Procedure Code
 List of Procedure Codes
 Range of Procedure Codes
 All Applicable Procedure Codes

Procedure Code : *

Provider NPI / API : *

Program : *

Date of Service : *

(The earliest date of service you can search is March 27, 2009.)

Claim Type : *

(Select the appropriate claim type for your fee search. Results may vary based on the claim type selected.)

TMHP publications and medical/dental policy documentation are available for searches of up to 10 procedure codes, but not available for batch submissions.

[Contracted Rate Search](#)

3) Enter required information on the Online Fee Lookup Search screen.

4) Communicate the OFL Search Results with the provider.

TOS	TOS Description	Procedure Code	Client Age From	Client Age Through	RRF	Total RVU	Conversion Factor	PPS Fee	Max Fee	Fee Effective Date	Adjusted Fee for Date of Service	Note Codes	Benefit Information*
2	SURGERY	58600	0	20	\$286.37	10.02	\$28.640	\$0.00	\$0.00	10/1/2010	\$229.58		View
2	SURGERY	58600	21	999	\$273.31	10.02	\$27.276	\$0.00	\$0.00	10/1/2010	\$218.65		View
8	ASSISTANT SURGERY	58600	0	20	\$46.11	1.61	\$28.640	\$0.00	\$0.00	10/1/2010	\$36.89		View
8	ASSISTANT SURGERY	58600	21	999	\$43.91	1.61	\$27.276	\$0.00	\$0.00	10/1/2010	\$35.13		View

* The Benefit Information function returns information on the procedure code(s) and program(s) searched.

Remember: Information in bulletins, and read provider manual.

Note: This list is not all-inclusive. Prior authorization amounts may be prior authorized for some procedure codes. Other limitations may apply to services that are medically necessary to correct or ameliorate a client's physical or mental illness, a benefit of THSteps when Federal Financial Participation is available, even if the services are not a benefit of Texas Medicaid. This expansion of services is only for clients who are 20 years of age or older who receive THSteps services.

The age range displayed is not the age range associated with the procedure. For procedure codes that contain more than one pricing row with age parameters, e.g., 21-999, the first row (e.g., 21-999) applies to that age and 0-20 represents pricing that is only applicable to that age. For more information on age limitations, providers should refer to the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual.

The Online Fee Lookup can also be accessed externally on tmhp.com.

Link to external OFL tool: <http://public.tmhp.com/FeeSchedules/Default.aspx>

Note: The external tool is unable to search by NPI/TPI.

If you need additional instructions in navigating the OFL, access the OFL wiki work instructions at [http://wiw/wiw/index.php/Online_Fee_Lookup_\(OFL\)](http://wiw/wiw/index.php/Online_Fee_Lookup_(OFL)).

Exceptions

Some categories are not available on the fee schedules therefore, certain rate reductions may not be reflected in the new Adjusted Fee column on the OFL. The categories that are not available on the fee schedules include the following:

- Place of Service
- Client type program
- Provider Specialty

It is important that TMHP notify the provider to review the rate change notifications available on the new Reimbursement Rate Change web page.

Escalation Process

The new Reimbursement Rate Change web page and the OFL should be utilized in all cases for information regarding rate reductions. Staff should continue to use their current escalation process to resolve provider concerns.

Questions and Answers

Q) Why was my rate reduced?

A) In accordance with the spending reduction plan that was part of House Bill 1, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011 these rates reductions were applied for Texas Medicaid.

Q) Where can I locate information on rate reductions?

A) Notifications regarding all rate changes are available on the Reimbursement Rate Change web page located on TMHP.com.

Q) How do I know what procedure codes are affected?

A) All procedure codes that were affected by this change have been documented on provider notifications located on the new Reimbursement Rate Change web page located on TMHP.com.

Q) When did this change take effect?

A) This change took effect on September 1, 2011.

Q) Who can I contact about a complaint regarding this change?

A) These rate reductions have been implemented due to the directive of the Legislature.

Note: Customer Care Representatives (CCR) should use the current complaint process to handle this

Q) If I'm a High Volume Provider, will the 5% be deducted off of the final total or from the total before the extra amount is added for being a High Volume Provider?

A) The reduction will be applied to the final amount.

Note: High Volume Providers are providers accounting for a high percentage of total payments during a qualifying period.

Q) Can we charge the client for the amount we are being reduced by?

A) Please refer to the 2011 Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, section 1.4.9 for information about billing clients.