

Medicaid

Overview

Medicaid is a program whereby federal and state governments share the cost of providing approximately 58 million needy Americans with health care coverage. To qualify for the program, states must include hospital services, prevention services, skilled nursing and home health care coverage for adults, and prevention and treatment services for children.

Unlike Medicare, Medicaid has a state funding component and allows each state to write its own rules for medical coverage. Therefore, every state may define PA scope of practice and reimbursement rules.

State Specific Information

PAs are covered for medical services they provide to Medicaid patients in Alaska. Although PAs are not credentialed by Alaska Medicaid, practices may submit claims for services provided by PAs with the provider number of the PA's supervising physician and the SA modifier. Reimbursement is paid to the PA's employer at 85 percent of the physician fee schedule.

PAs may provide virtually any service covered by Medicaid and allowed by Alaska's state laws governing PA scope of practice including first assisting at surgery. Claims for first assisting at surgery should be submitted with the 80 modifier; reimbursement is at 25 percent of the primary surgeon's allowable.

FAQ

How can I obtain more information about Medicaid reimbursement in <state>?

More information about Medicaid reimbursement is available from the First Health Services Corporation at <https://alaska.fhsc.com> or by calling 907/ 644-6800 or 800/770-5650. The AAPA reimbursement office staff at 703/836-2272, ext. 3218 or 3219 can also help answer questions about the Medicaid program.