

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER (CCBHC)

Pending approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Department of Community Health (DCH) Board, DCH proposes to establish Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) services effective July 1, 2024. CCBHC services include a comprehensive and integrated package of mental health and substance use disorder treatment services and supports.

The CCBHC service is a service which is all-inclusive of outpatient behavioral health service elements defined in federal law, including but not limited to the elements listed here:

- Behavioral Health Assessment
- Recovery Plan Development
- Diagnostic Assessment
- Crisis Intervention Services
- Psychiatric Treatment
- Psychiatric-Medical Consultation
- Nursing Assessment and Care
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program
- Individual Outpatient Services
- Family Outpatient Services
- Group Outpatient Services
- Medication Administration
- Intensive Family Intervention
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation
- Psychological Testing
- Case Management Support & Services
- Community Support Services
- Addictive Diseases Support Services
- Peer Support
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
- Detoxification Services (ambulatory only)
- Community Living Supports (Level IV only – non-residential)
- Task-Oriented Rehabilitation Services

These CCBHC services are uniquely crafted to treat, and support identified mental health and substance use disorder conditions in a comprehensive service model. In addition to the services above, the CCBHC will deliver all health home coordination.

CCBHC certification is required by the State of Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) in accordance with state and federal law/policy and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (HHS/SAMHSA) requirements for CCBHC certification. CCBHCs will:

- Be public safety net programs which are recognized as Community Service Boards (CSB) in accordance with Georgia law (or identified by DBHDD as a designated CSB proxy in counties which do not have a CSB); and
- Be contractors of the DBHDD as Comprehensive Community Providers of outpatient behavioral health and/or substance abuse services; and
- Meet state policy and certification requirements for CCBHCs, to include procedures and agreements in place to facilitate referral for services needed beyond the scope of the facility as mandated in federal CCBHC certification expectations;
- Have a 24/7 walk-in crisis service center or crisis stabilization unit OR have an agreement in place with a state-sanctioned alternative as certified by DBHDD;
- Provide services which support across the life span (children, youth and adults);
- Actively use a comprehensive Electronic Health Record.

The state reimburses CCBHC providers on a bundled payment basis using a provider-specific daily payment rate. The bundled payment represents the cost of providing all CCBHC Services. A CCBHC provider receives payment for each day CCBHC services are provided to a Medicaid beneficiary. Payment is limited to one payment per day, per CCBHC, per beneficiary for each CCBHC visit. If an individual receives multiple services in one day, there is only a single payment for the day.

Daily rates are developed based on provider-specific cost report data from state fiscal year (SFY) 2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022). The rates include allowable CCBHC costs for services rendered by a certified provider, including all qualifying sites of the certified provider established prior to this date.

Fee schedule rates for CCBHC services will be established July 1, 2024, and are effective for services provided on and after that date. For newly certified CCBHCs, the daily payment rate will be based upon that provider's unique cost report data from a full previous fiscal year and implemented upon certification.

The State will review CCBHC costs and expenses annually using the CMS CCBHC cost report. Upon receipt from the CCBHC, the cost reports are reviewed and approved by the state. The rate year follows the fiscal year. Rate re-basing will occur after Year 1 of CCBHC operations, and then, at a minimum, at 3-year intervals.

DCH and DBHDD have estimated the establishment of CCBHC services to be cost neutral to the Medicaid program.

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **September 20, 2023 at 12:30 p.m., via Zoom audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88573767329?pwd=MFZiT2hLNzILTMtE4ZUljTV3cTc1QT09>

Meeting ID: 885 7376 7329

Passcode: 427959

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,88573767329#,,,,*427959# US

+13092053325,,88573767329#,,,,*427959# US

Dial by your location

- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 885 7376 7329

Passcode: 427959

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **September 27, 2023**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966. You may also email comments to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov.

If the proposed changes are presented to the Board for final action, relevant comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board. The Board expects to vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held on **October 12, 2023** at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health unless withdrawn or withheld by the Department for further review.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023
Russel Carlson, Commissioner