



## **\*\*CORRECTION\*\***

### **Updated Fax Number for Initial Requests (833) 552-0030**

#### **Changes to Prior Authorization Requirements - Effective May 12, 2020 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy - (Medicaid)**

Effective May 12, 2020, requirements for Prior Authorization (PA) with Molina Healthcare of Washington will change for the following CPT and HCPCS codes related to Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Therapy. This benefit is only available for members 20 years and younger. Referral to a Center of Excellence (COE) for an evaluation does not require a PA. This change affects **Apple Health (Medicaid) members and does not apply to Marketplace members**. Molina will require a PA for both participating and non-participating providers for claims submitted for any place of service. Below is a list of codes that will require a PA.

Molina will grant authorization in three to six-month increments, based on medical necessity. Three weeks before the expiration date of the current authorization, the ABA therapy provider must recertify authorization to continue services.

**No additional clinical notes are required from you at this time as we transition to this change. Molina will work with you on continuity of care for all members in active treatment. We will use current claims data to open authorizations on your members actively receiving treatment and establish a plan for concurrent review of these cases with you.**

ABA Prior Authorization Guide CPT/HCPCS Codes	DESCRIPTION			UPCOMING CHANGE
97153	Adaptive behavior treatment by protocol: CBT, 15-minute units			PA REQUIRED
97155	Adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification: LBAT and possible CBT 15-minute units			PA REQUIRED
97154	Group adaptive behavior treatment by protocol: 15-minute units - two or more clients			PA REQUIRED
97158	Group adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification: 15-minute unit LBAT			PA REQUIRED
<b>ABA Group Treatment in Home and Community-Based Settings*</b>				
97154/97158	UN	Skills train and development – 2 clients	PA	Per 15 min
	UP	Skills train and development – 3 clients	PA	Per 15 min
	UQ	Skills train and development – 4 clients	PA	Per 15 min
	UR	Skills train and development – 5 clients	PA	Per 15 min
	US	Skills train and development – 6+ clients	PA	Per 15 min

**Initial Requests: Please complete these documents and fax to (833) 552-0030**

1. **MHW Behavioral Health *Prior Authorization Request form***
2. **An *ABA Level of Support Requirement form***
3. **An *Assessment and Behavior Change Plan* prepared by the board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA), which must include:**
  - The LBAT's assessment
  - The LBAT's treatment plan, which must include:
    - The place of service where ABA will be delivered
    - Anticipated hours of service
    - Training and specific, measurable goals for the family, the caregiver, or both
    - The LBAT signature
    - Signature line for the parent's signature
    - The BCBA's functional analysis, if one was completed
4. **A copy of a signed prescription for ABA therapy services**
5. **A copy of the COE evaluation**

**Requirements for continued ABA services:** (WAC [182-531A-1100](#))

Continued ABA services require PA. The following are requirements for recertification of ABA services:

1. The LBAT must submit a new request for authorization to continue services at least three weeks before the current authorization expires.
2. The LBAT must submit a reevaluation and revised ABA treatment plan that documents the client's progress, showing measurable changes in the frequency, intensity, and duration of the targeted behavior or symptoms addressed in the previously authorized ABA treatment plan. Documentation must include all of the following:
  - a. Projection of eventual outcome
  - b. Assessment instruments
  - c. Developmental markers of readiness
  - d. Evidence of coordination with providers

If prior authorization is required for a requested service, please fax your authorization requests to Molina at (833) 552-0030

**Forms:**

For our prior authorization forms, please see our provider website at:

- <https://www.molinahealthcare.com/providers/wa/medicaid/forms/Pages/fuf.aspx>

**\*\*Molina does not require authorization for parent training provided after the child has been approved for the ABA benefit or any ABA services whether that training is provided during the child's individual treatment or alone after successful completion of ABA Day Treatment.**