

interChange Provider Important Message

Attention: Behavioral Health Clinicians

Mental Health Access Improvement Act

On December 23, 2022, Congress passed the Mental Health Access Improvement Act (S.828/H.R.432) and was signed into law by President Biden. This bill allows License Professional Counselors (LPCs) and Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) to enroll as providers in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as Medicare providers. Please refer to the following links for additional information [faqs-on-the-passage-of-mha-improvement-act_2022.pdf \(counseling.org\)](#) and [marriage-and-family-therapists-and-mental-health-counselors-faq-09052023.pdf \(cms.gov\)](#).

As of January 1, 2024, LPCs and MFTs will be able to bill Medicare Part B and be reimbursed for approved services in accordance with Medicare reimbursement rates. American Counseling Association (ACA) will provide additional information on services covered as we are advised to do so by Center for Medicaid and Medicare services (CMS).

Clinicians should be able to sign up to the Medicare providers program by January 1, 2024.

Although it hasn't been updated for LPCs and MFTs at this time, you may go to [Become a Medicare Provider or Supplier | CMS](#) which provides you with information on how to become a Medicare provider.

ACA will offer training on how to sign up for the Medicare provider program. ACA will send out updates on all scheduled training courses, and they will be recorded for those unable to attend.

For additional information on billing secondary Medicare claims to Medicaid please refer to the [www.ctdssmap.com](#) Web site, under information → publications, provider manual chapter 11 "Other Insurance and Medicare Billing Guides", claim type "Professional Other Insurance/Medicare Billing Guide".

Behavioral Health Clinicians can also refer to the behavioral health clinician refresher workshop materials under provider training [CMAP Training Information](#) for additional billing information.