



Medicaid Capacity Building Initiative
 Illinois Provider Accreditation, Certification, and Billing Cheat Sheet
 8-7-13

Accreditation

All entities who are either contracted or subcontracted to deliver Medicaid-funded services in Illinois must have Accreditation through one of the approved agencies outlined below.

Accrediting Body	Service Categories	Example of services	Fees	Notes	Timeframe
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)	Behavioral Health Care		Based on number of people served by agency and number of sites; fees broken down between application and survey fees	Primary focus is on healthcare providers like hospitals, outpatient	At agency's pace; application is good for 12-months; allows time to prepare for on-site survey
Council on Accreditation (COA)	Behavioral Health Homeless Nonprofit	Case management Outreach; Shelter Services	Sliding scale based on agency budget; minimum \$6,720 plus \$2,000 site fee and	Agencies must provide at least one service under COA standards; accredits the whole organization not individual programs	Must submit self-study 8-weeks before site visit
CARF	Behavioral Health Employment and Community Services	Case Management Community Housing Home and Community Services	Not listed; competitive with other accrediting bodies	Can accredit programs within an agency	Average 9-12 months preparation before site survey



The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL)	Service Coordination Case Management Services for Mental Illness	Same	Not listed	Accredit organizations not individual programs	6-months prior to site survey with follow up for 18-24 months post accreditation
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Certification of Programs and Staff Qualifications for Service Delivery

Certification differs from Accreditation in that the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services has specific categories and programs it supports. For example, COA recognizes Homeless Services as a type of service and agency it would accredit. However, that agency would then have to determine which Illinois Medicaid program to select and get certified as a provider. Additionally, the state does guarantee that if you become certified that you will receive a contract for funding.

- How to get certification:
 - Work with HFS and the agency who directly oversees the program (if any – i.e. IDHS/DMH for Mental Health Rule 132 or for Substance Abuse)
 - Complete the HFS Medicaid Certification Program and direct questions to the Provider Participation Unit
 - Agree to participate in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program (applies also for subcontractors)
- Staff Qualifications for Services by Certified Entities and Reimbursement Rates
 - Many of the same services are provided under all of the different Illinois Medicaid Rules (see IL Medicaid Crosswalk)
 - Example: Behavioral Health (Rule 132)
 - Case management: Qualified staff – Rehabilitation Service Aid (RSA); Rate -- \$15/quarter hour
 - Community Supports: Qualified staff
 - RSA -- \$15/quarter hour
 - MHP -- \$19/quarter hour
 - QMHP -- \$20/quarter hour
 - This may be changing and updating with ACA and other negotiations to rates at the state level



Billing Tips – Thinking about potential revenue to support cost/benefit of partnerships

- Staff time – total available in the year, and hours available to provide Medicaid covered services
- Consider services delivered individually different from those delivered in a group setting
- If only a certain percentage of work/operations relate to Medicaid funding you need other revenue to make your budget whole (i.e. Medicaid won't cover everything)

Things not addressed

- Care Coordination fees
- Confirmation from MCO's the provider qualifications to be in networks or receive funds. Assume it may be the same as direct biller.
- Impact of changes to Illinois Medicaid taxonomy and changes to the Home and Community Based Services program or an adoption of an 1115 Waiver that could cover generally supportive housing services (point for advocacy).

Document Reference List:

- "Community Mental Health Services: Service Definition and Reimbursement Guide" (State of Illinois)
- "Fee for Service Provider Training." Parker & Denniston. June 2006.
- Joint Committee on Administrative Rules – excerpts from that and IDHS website