

Utah Medicaid Legislative Updates 2024

Rates will increase on **July 1, 2024** for the following programs and services:

1. Medicaid Pharmacy Dispensing Fee
 - a. FFS Medicaid Pharmacy dispensing fee will increase to \$11.56 for both urban and rural pharmacies
 - b. Managed Care plans are not obligated to follow the same increase
2. Nursing Home Medicaid Rate Increase
3. Coverage for Ambulatory Medical Detox
4. Ground Ambulance Mileage Reimbursement

Passed Legislation Impacting Medicaid/CHIP

1. [H.B. 38 Psychotropic Medication Oversight Pilot Program Amendments](#)
 - a. Makes the Utah Psychotropic Oversight Program (UPOP) a permanent program, under the Division of Integrated Healthcare
 - b. Funds the Department to reimburse for foster care and juvenile justice youth at the same rate as other Medicaid recipients.
 - c. **TIMELINE: July 1, 2024**
2. [H.B. 392 Nursing Care Facility Modifications](#)
 - a. Removes statutorily prescribed penalties and interest imposed on nursing care facilities for failure to pay an assessment;
 - b. Grants to the Division of Integrated Healthcare rulemaking authority to require nursing care facilities to pay a penalty for failure to timely pay an assessment
 - c. **TIMELINE: Rule submitted for July 1, 2024**
3. [H.B. 501 Health Amendments](#)
 - a. Directs the Department to amend the pending 1115 "Justice" Waiver.
 - i. Pre-release benefit is limited to reentry case management services; physical and behavioral health clinical services; medications and medication administration; MAT; and other services as determined by rule.
 - ii. Extends coverage to 90-days pre-release.
 - iii. Requires reinvestment of savings.
 - iv. **TIMELINE: Addendum submitted by July 1, 2024**

- b. Prohibits other health insurers from denying TPL collections (i.e., "pay and chase") due solely to the lack of prior authorization.
 - i. **TIMELINE: July 1, 2024**
- c. Primary care rate increase of 2.17% on select codes
 - i. **TIMELINE: July 1, 2024**

4. [S.B. 26 Behavioral Health Licensing Amendments](#)

- a. Creates the licenses of master addiction counselor and associate master addiction counselor.
- b. Creates the license of behavioral health coach and certification of behavioral health technician.
- c. Expands the scope of practice of social service workers and advanced substance use disorder counselors to include drafting treatment plans and updates and providing manualized therapeutic interventions in limited circumstances and under supervision.
- d. **TIMELINE: Waiting on DOPL (180 days after May 1) but PRISM programming is being scheduled and SPA will be submitting by July 1.**

5. [S.B. 27 Behavioral Health System Amendments](#)

- a. Repeals the Behavioral Health Delivery Working Group which was enacted by [H.B. 413 \(2022 GS\) - FINAL MEETING held on March 22, 2024](#)
- b. Moves the Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Committee to DHHS
 - i. **TIMELINE: May 1, 2024**
- c. Creates the Utah Behavioral Health Commission
 - i. **TIMELINE: May 1, 2024**

6. [S.B. 32 Caregiver Compensation Amendments](#)

- a. Fixes an omission from last session and allows step-parents to be compensated as a caregiver for extraordinary care provided to HCBS waiver enrollees. Parents are already allowed this benefit.
- b. **TIMELINE: July 1, 2024**

7. [S.B. 181 Native American Health Amendments](#)

- a. Opens traditional healing services for American Indian/Alaskan Native members. Providers would be designated by a tribe and consistent with their traditional healing practices.
- b. **TIMELINE: Submit 1115 waiver by January 1, 2025**

8. [S.B. 197 Medicaid Reimbursement Rate Amendments](#)



- a. Designates autism spectrum disorder services in statute as part of mandatory annual increases to the ACOs/BH plans of at least 2%. The overall increase will be lower than 2% as the ACO/BH increase is allocated to include the ABA services.
- b. **TIMELINE:** Rate increases will go into effect July 1, 2025