

November 2021

OVERVIEW:

Aetna Better Health of Louisiana (ABHLA) is aligned with the Louisiana Department of Health's Medicaid Services Manual, and would like to remind providers to refer to these manuals when submitting claims. If the manual requires additional guidance impacting reimbursement, the details will be outlined by ABHLA in the Provider Manual or in a supporting reimbursement policy.

On 11/15/2021, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) published [Informational Bulletin \(IB\) 21-27 COVID-19 Vaccine Administration in Federally Qualified Health Centers \(FQHC\) and Rural Health Clinics \(RHC\) throughout the Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#).

For dates of service on and after 12/23/2020, and throughout the COVID-19 PHE declaration, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved an alternative payment methodology (APM) for FQHCs/RHCs to receive reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration. ABHLA is updating its systems within 30 days of this notice and will reimburse vaccine administration at the Medicare rate on file for each date of service.

For the latest guidance on COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine administration please refer to [IB 20-5](#) and [IB 21-11](#), which continue to be updated throughout the PHE. The relevant procedure codes for vaccine and vaccine administration are listed on the "COVID-19 Vaccine/Treatment Fee Schedules" available at: https://www.lamedicaid.com/Proweb1/fee_schedules/COVID-19_Fee.htm. Fee schedules are updated by LDH as new information becomes available.

ABHLA will reimburse the administration of COVID-19 vaccines as part of an otherwise billable FQHC/RHC encounter as a part of the all-inclusive encounter rate and no separate reimbursement will be made. FQHCs/RHCs must submit the T1015 procedure code with detailed lines including both the respective COVID-19 vaccine and the appropriate administration code for reimbursement of the vaccine administration.

Providers may begin submitting claims for dates of service on or after 12/23/2020. Due to potential timely filing issues that may arise as a result of the delayed CMS approval, ABHLA will bypass timely filing for 90 days, until 3/23/2022, allowing providers to submit claims for dates of service from 12/23/2020 to 03/22/2021. ABHLA will recycle all claims denied due to noncoverage of the vaccine and administration upon implementation of these changes.

Please note that providers may see reimbursement impacted if not aligned to the Louisiana Department of Health's Medicaid services manual within 30 days of the date of this reminder notification.



Aetna Better Health® of Louisiana

Provider Network Notification

LDH COVID 19 Vaccine Administration in FQHCs and RHCs throughout the Public Health Emergency

Questions and Support:

For questions, please contact LAProvider@AETNA.com or call 1-855-242-0802 and follow the prompts.

A Reminder about the Medicaid Provider Enrollment Portal:

Don't delay in registering and submitting an enrollment application through the Louisiana Medicaid Provider Enrollment portal. Any existing Medicaid provider that does not complete the enrollment and screening process through the portal by March 31, 2022, will risk claim denials and disruption in patient care. Medicaid Provider Enrollment Portal assistance is available Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Please contact (833) 641-2140 for assistance.