

Medicaid/HUSKY Autism Spectrum Disorders Services

1-877-552-8247



BEACON HEALTH OPTIONS AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS SERVICES

As the Administrative Service Organization for the Department of Social Services, our team is responsible for reviewing documentation to support level of care guidelines and medical necessity to authorize Autism Spectrum Disorders Services for HUSKY A, C, and D members under the age of 21

ASD peer Specialists and Care Coordinators Objectives

- To help the member and their family understand what Autism Services are available to them through their Medicaid benefit
- To assess the needs of the member and their family
- To help families navigate the journey of accessing services

MEDICAID/HUSKY AUTISM SERVICES COVERED

Diagnostic Evaluation: For those members who are not yet diagnosed but suspected to meet criteria for an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis

Behavioral Assessment: A Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA is completed to determine the specific behavioral needs of the member, (takes 8 – 10 hours to complete)

Treatment Plan Development: A Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) is developed from the FBA and will include a plan to decrease maladaptive behaviors and increase replacement behaviors with observable and measurable goals and objectives. This guides the direct intervention by qualified behavior technicians. This also includes parent training goals and crisis plans.

Direct Intervention: In-home and Community based services, behavior technician supervised by a BCBA or licensed clinician (number of hours is based on medical necessity and the recommendation within the treatment plan

Group Treatment Services: These include social skills groups and parent groups for members and their families

These services are available through community providers

WHAT IS NEEDED TO GET SERVICES STARTED?

- Active HUSKY A, C, or D and be under the age of 21
- An Autism Diagnostic Evaluation (ADE) demonstrating the assessment tools used resulting in a diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ADOS, ADI-R, CARS, GARS) completed by a Licensed Clinician, MD, APRN or Licensed Psychologist
- If the ADE was completed more than a year ago, a supporting letter by a current treating provider supporting the ASD diagnosis and
- Releases of Information for providers within our Medicaid Network, past and current providers, school etc.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM IN HOME DIRECT INTERVENTION?

- Once an Autism Diagnostic Evaluation, supporting letter (if needed) and releases are signed, the Beacon Health Options ASD team will begin working on connecting your child with a provider in your community. This may take several months. Your Peer Specialist or Care Coordinator can provide the names of providers you have been referred to so that you can also call them directly
- Once a provider is identified, they will schedule a time to complete their Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA). This is the first step in developing a Behavior Intervention Plan. There may be a lapse of time of several weeks between this FBA being completed and staff starting to work in the home. During this time, the provider is developing the Behavior Intervention Plan, identifying and training staff
- Behavior Technician(s) will provide a set number of hours per week of direct services determined through the FBA; 10 % of this time will have additional support by the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) or Licensed Clinician
- A caregiver (e.g. parent, guardian, family member, babysitter, child care worker, etc.) shall be present in all treatment settings at all times
- The designated caregiver shall actively participate in treatment sessions in a manner specified in the behavioral Plan of Care in order to promote a transfer of skills and at least 50% of the direct intervention time
- Treatment can occur in any number of settings, including home and the community but cannot occur in a school/academic setting
- In the event that you or your child carry a primary insurance plan, Medicaid/HUSKY is the secondary payer

Resources:

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits>

<http://www.behavior.org/help.php>

<http://ct-asrc.org/>