

# Becoming an Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan Provider through the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP)

As a provider of Autism Spectrum services in the state of Connecticut, you know the unique challenges of working with this growing population. But you may not know the advantages of becoming an Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan Provider through the CT BHP and its administrator, Beacon Health Options.



## Simple, Straightforward Qualification Process

In compliance with Department of Social Services (DSS) regulations, the qualification process for individual providers, group practices and licensed clinics to enroll as a Medicaid provider for ASD Services is fast and straightforward. See the enclosed Qualification Instructions and fax number.



## Medicaid Members Are Supported by Beacon Specialists

Beacon can make your work more effective by providing trained ASD peers and care coordinators to help Medicaid members and their families/caregivers understand their benefits, assess their needs, and navigate the health care system. All Beacon ASD peers and most care coordinators have lived experience with ASD. To see us working alongside one of our providers, watch Beacon's mini documentary, "Michael," in the Expertise section of [beaconhealthoptions.com](http://beaconhealthoptions.com)



## Streamlined Authorization Process

You'll find our self-service features make authorization of covered services under the Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan quick and easy. ASD Clinical Care Managers (CCMs) can walk you through the process and help you to understand the State-required documentation standards. In addition, our CCMs are knowledgeable consultants who provide feedback and support in the development of effective strategies for providing in home services to this population.



## Medicaid Reimbursement for Time Developing Treatment Plans and Program Books

The Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan recognizes, and reimburses you for, the valuable work involved in developing treatment plans and program books. Studies show program books improve in-home treatment outcomes, especially in times of crisis. They also enhance communication among behavior technicians, and increase the likelihood caregivers will maintain data sheets and utilize recommended interventions.



## ASD Provider Learning Collaboratives

Beacon offers monthly Provider Learning Collaboratives that address the care of individuals with ASD in a home setting. Among other areas of focus, these free sessions help providers empower parents/caregivers by teaching them specific skills to prevent maladaptive behaviors and increase skills across a range of functional domains. The Collaboratives can also train providers on state regulations and expectations to ensure Medicaid members receive high quality services.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that

# 1 in 68

are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), representing a 119% increase since 2000.

## ASD SERVICES FOR HUSKY MEDICAID

- **Diagnostic Evaluation:**  
For those members who are not yet diagnosed but suspected to meet criteria for an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis.
- **Behavioral Assessment:**  
A functional behavior assessment (FBA) is completed to determine the specific behavioral needs of the member, (eight to 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 of qualified behavior technicians. This plan also includes parent training goals and a crisis plan.
- **Direct Intervention:**  
In-home and community-based services provided by behavior technician(s) supervised by a board certified behavior analyst 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.

## BEACON FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

In addition to managing ASD services for HUSKY Medicaid members younger than 21 living with ASD, Beacon can provide Family Support Services to the families of any Medicaid member with an ASD diagnosis, regardless of age.

This specialized program is not a medical service; rather it offers families and caregivers the tools, information, and resources along with support, guidance, and advocacy for those impacted by ASD.

Our family-centered approach features dedicated ASD peers and care coordinators who provide members with information and referrals to make life with ASD less stressful and more manageable. ASD specialists provide coaching support and teach members about the ASD diagnosis, available treatments, and coping strategies. Most importantly, they help caregivers become stronger advocates on the person's behalf.

The Family Support Services Program also connects families and caregivers to:

- Community programs and local events
- Support groups
- Advocacy groups
- Online educational information
- Available treatment resources and therapies (subject to benefit availability)

Beacon Health Options began managing ASD benefits for Medicaid beneficiaries in January 2015 following the state's mandate for insurance coverage. The goal of the Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan is to connect HUSKY A, C, and D members under age 21 living with ASD to appropriate services and supports within their communities and to transfer behavioral skills and strategies to the HUSKY member and their family.



**Nearly 1,500  
ASD members  
receive direct  
service**



**300+ are working  
with Beacon to  
become service  
eligible**

**We continue  
to grow our  
CT ASD  
NETWORK**



**Increasing  
capacity  
3X this  
past year**



**With over 180  
participating  
ASD providers\***

\*For our list of ASD Medicaid enrolled providers, go to: <http://www.ctbhp.com/asd/ASD-Provider-contact-List.pdf>

### A LEGACY OF RESULTS

Beacon has a singular focus on behavioral health. We deliver innovative, flexible solutions that enable people to improve their health and wellness, no matter how complicated their conditions. With more than 30 years of behavioral health experience, we are the industry leader, offering customized solutions to meet your population's needs. Our specialized Autism Spectrum Disorder program provides access to expert treatment and therapies for those with ASD, as well as coaching support for families/caregivers.

Resources: [www.behavior.org/help.php](http://www.behavior.org/help.php) | [www.ct-asrc.org](http://www.ct-asrc.org) | [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)