

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LICENSURE CANDIDATES RATE REDUCTION

1. IS THIS A RATE CHANGE OR A METHOD CHANGE?

Rate Change

2. IS THIS CHANGE AN INCREASE, DECREASE, OR NO IMPACT?

This change represents a decrease in the reimbursement rates for services provided by Behavioral Health Licensure Candidates (BHL-Cs) in Outpatient Behavioral Health Clinic settings.

3. PRESENTATION OF ISSUE – WHY IS THIS CHANGE BEING MADE?

The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS or Agency) proposes to revise the reimbursement rates for BHL-Cs. Changes are necessary to reduce the Agency's spending to balance the state budget in accordance with Article 10, Section 23 of the Oklahoma Constitution, which prohibits a state agency from spending more money than is allocated.

4. CURRENT METHODOLOGY AND/OR RATE STRUCTURE.

BHL-Cs are currently reimbursed at the same level of payment as Licensed Behavioral Health Practitioners (LBHPs) in outpatient behavioral health clinics. In the aggregate the payment for all services equal 71.75% of the 2007 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), which is the upper payment limit (UPL) for the base fee method for outpatient behavioral health clinic services in the currently approved Medicaid State Plan.

5. NEW METHODOLOGY OR RATE STRUCTURE.

ODMHSAS proposes to reduce the reimbursement rates for services provided by BHL-Cs in outpatient behavioral health clinics by 10%, to reflect differences in education and training. This change is estimated to reduce the overall payment to outpatient behavioral health clinics to 67.4% of the 2007 MPFS, and therefore does not change the UPL overall base fee for the UPL requirements for clinic services.

6. BUDGET ESTIMATE.

Estimated savings to ODMHSAS for SFY2016 is \$1,377,641 Total; \$537,418 State share.
Estimated savings to ODMHSAS for SFY2017 is \$8,265,862 Total; \$3,224,513 State share.

7. AGENCY ESTIMATED IMPACT ON ACCESS TO CARE.

The Agency does not anticipate diminished access. However an access monitoring review plan will be developed for behavioral health services by July 2016, in accordance with 42 CFR 447.203(b)

8. RATE OR METHOD CHANGE IN THE FORM OF A MOTION.

The Agency requests the SPARC to approve the proposed reduction in reimbursement rates for BHL-Cs by 10%.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE.

May 1, 2016