




STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Mental Hygiene Administration • Spring Grove Hospital Center • Dix Building
55 Wade Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary
Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director

TO: Medicaid Provider Applicants Serving Individuals in Maryland's Public Mental Health System (PMHS)

FROM: Brian M. Hepburn, M.D.
Executive Director 

RE: Procedures for Service Delivery, Authorization and Payment

Date: March 2, 2011

Welcome to Maryland's Public Mental Health System (PMHS), a fee for service system administered by the Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) through a contract to an Administrative Services Organization, ValueOptions Maryland. Payment for mental health services for individuals who are Medicaid recipients and individuals who meet PMHS uninsured eligibility criteria is managed under this contract.

In order to be paid for services, providers need to comply with all requirements to be a provider under Medicaid, MHA, and the respective practice acts. The PMHS only reimburses for individual practitioners who are authorized to practice independently under the respective practice act and for programs regulated under COMAR 10.21, Community Mental Health Programs. Please refer to COMAR 10.21.25 which identifies the reimbursement rates and general reimbursement conditions required to receive payment for claims.

After providers receive a Medicaid number, the provider should register with Value Options to access their online authorization and claims payment system. All providers are required to receive authorization for services *prior to* service delivery. Failure to obtain an authorization will result in non payment of claims. Please refer to COMAR 10.09.70 for requirements of the Medicaid Specialty Mental Health System.

Information is posted on ValueOptions' web site and MHA's web site, including the provider manual and regular updates. Please assure that you check these sites regularly in order to comply with all requirements for PMHS providers. As a Medicaid provider, you are responsible for being informed of any changes that effect Medicaid. In addition, MHA expects all service providers to contact the local mental health authority, called the Core Service Agency (CSA), which is responsible for coordinating, planning and managing mental health services at the local level.

Thank you.

The web sites are:
For information about MHA and CSAs www.dhmh.state.md.us/mha
For regulations: www.dsd.state.md.us
For information on ValueOptions <http://Maryland.valueoptions.com>
Phone Numbers:
Value Options – 1 -800-888-1965
MHA -410-402-8300