



## **Community Behavioral Health: Provider Notice CBH COVID-19 Response: Provider Payments November 3, 2020 (Provider Advisory Committee FAQ Correction)**

**This Notice revises a previously issued [Notice](#), which replaced previously issued guidance reflected in the March 19, 2020, Provider Advisory Committee FAQ Document.**

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) would like to assure Providers that we are working in conjunction with the PA Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health & Substance Use Services (OMHSAS), to ensure that you remain financially sound during this challenging time associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

As such, we have developed with approval by OMHSAS, an Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) for all community-based providers. We have prioritized community-based services in this initial APA based on projected lower utilization of services, posing the most imminent financial risk.

We will be submitting a second APA for all other levels of care and anticipate prompt approval. APA payments for all providers will follow the same methodology and have the same requirements.

1. Payments will be based on payments made to providers in 2019, trended forward to reflect rate increases implemented in 2019 and 2020.
2. Fee for service claims processing for payment will cease effective with dates of service 4/1/2020.
3. Providers will still be required to submit claims/ encounters during the prospective payment period.
4. Payment under the APA will begin in April, with prospective monthly payments issued to providers by April 10 to cover April services and expenses.

5. CBH will manage on a case by case basis any financial challenges this timeline may pose for providers.
6. Providers will be required to provide services to members as appropriate based on currently permitted state and federal guidance.
7. CBH will require providers to continue to pay their employees during this crisis based on their regular salaries during the normal course of business.
8. CBH will require providers to submit administrative cost data for the period they are paid the prospective payment.
9. There will not be reconciliation to claims during the prospective payment period.