

Please Note: This FAQ serves as an attachment to [CBH Provider Bulletin 21-20](#).

1. Is the ASAM Outpatient Case Rate for drug and alcohol services or for behavioral health services?

The ASAM Outpatient Case Rate is for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Outpatient (OP) and will be implemented 4/1/22. Until then, all rates will be restored per historical fee-for-service amounts for SUD OP and will be eligible for the Bridge Payment.

2. When can we expect to see our rates?

Rates that were in effect prior to the COVID-19 APA have been reinstated in each provider's Schedule A. If you have concerns or questions regarding your Schedule A, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.

3. Will we be able to get a copy of the Bridge Payment presentation?

Yes, the PowerPoint will be sent out and the recording can be accessed upon request. If you would like to view the recording or PowerPoint, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.

4. Is the IBHS APA for regionalized or non-regionalized IBHS providers?

The IBHS APA is for regionalized IBHS providers only. Non-regionalized IBHS providers will be reimbursed via fee-for-service beginning on 1/1/22 and will be eligible for a Bridge Payment.

5. Are the fee-for-service rates that have been restored as of 1/1/22 inclusive of the 5% and 2% increases that were included in the COVID-19 APA?

The 5% and 2% increases were given solely to the COVID-19 APA and were not included in the fee-for-service rates. Rates that were in effect prior to the COVID-19 APA have been reinstated in each provider's Schedule A.

6. Will the CIRC Quarterly Bonus program continue in its current form (eligibility, payment calculation, timing) independent of the APA to FFS Bridge program?

CIRC will continue to operate under their agreed upon Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) and will be eligible for a Bridge Payment.

7. Will claims be paid weekly?

Yes, claims payment schedules will resume their previous cycle and will be paid weekly.

8. Will CBH be providing us with specifics on how you calculated each bridge payment?

Providers should be able to review their payment amounts by comparing their claims submission data and their Schedule A in relation to their COVID-19 APA amount. Should you have any concerns or additional questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.

9. Is the 25% minimum based on service/program or in whole for the provider agency?

The 25% calculation is based on the entire agency's claim submission, minus programs that are on an Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA), such as IBHS, Children's Crisis, and CIRC.

10. What is the timing of the first Bridge Payment compared to the final APA payment?

The first Bridge Payment will be paid on March 16, 2022. The last COVID-19 APA payment (for December 2021) will be paid on January 19, 2022.

11. How are services that span multiple months taken into consideration (e.g., a CBE could be submitted in Feb that includes DOS in January and December)?

Dates of service will be tied to the specific month of a bridge payment. Services that span multiple months will be broken out into their respective months. It should be noted that only services that occur in 2022 will be taken into consideration when calculating the corresponding Bridge Payment.

12. What happens once a provider hits their Bridge Payment calculation for that month?

For each service rendered, providers will bill claims and be paid fee-for-service per normal practice. If the provider does not reach the calculated Bridge Payment amount that they are eligible for, they will be paid the difference on the identified payment date. If the provider exceeds the Bridge Payment amount, they will continue to bill claims and be paid fee-for-service. Below outlines the details for the Bridge Payments:

Table A: Bridge Payment Timing

<i>Month of Service</i>	<i>Month of Bridge Payment</i>	<i>Max. Percent of APA</i>	<i>Claims Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Expense Report Due</i>	<i>Payment Date</i>
January	March	100%	3/1/2022	3/9/2022	3/16/2022
February	April	100%	3/29/2022	4/6/2022	4/13/2022
March	May	100%	4/26/2022	5/11/2022	5/11/2022
April	June	95%	5/31/2022	6/8/2022	6/15/2022
May	July	90%	6/28/2022	7/6/2022	7/13/2022
June	August	85%	7/26/2022	8/10/2022	8/10/2022
July	September	80%	8/30/2022	9/7/2022	9/14/2022
August	October	75%	9/27/2022	10/5/2022	10/12/2022
September	November	70%	10/25/2022	11/2/2022	11/9/2022
October	December	65%	11/29/2022	12/7/2022	12/14/2022
November	January	65%	12/27/2022	1/4/2023	1/11/2023
December	February	65%	1/31/2023	2/8/2023	2/15/2023

- 13.** For ASAM Outpatient levels of care, what will be used for the Bridge Calculations for January through March? What will be used to develop the Case Rate that will be implemented April 1, 2022?

The ASAM Outpatient Case Rate is for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Outpatient (OP) and will be implemented 4/1/22. Until then, all rates will be restored per historical fee-for-service amounts for SUD OP, as well as for all other levels of care that will continue on FFS and will be eligible for the Bridge Payment. The ASAM Case Rate is being developed using prior utilization and cost trends and will continue to be discussed with the provider community pending implementation.

14. When will the rates be added to the Schedule As?

The rates have been restored to each provider agency’s Schedule A. If your Schedule A continues to reflect a \$0 rate, or if you have other questions or concerns, please reach out to your Provider Relations Representative.

15. Will the IBHS APA payments be sent separately from the Bridge Payments?

Bridge Payments and IBHSA APA payments will be sent separately, however, it should be noted that payments will largely fall on the same day. Below is a schedule of the IBHS APA and Bridge Payment Dates.

Table B: Bridge Payment and IBHS APA Timing

Bridge Payment		IBHS APA	
Month of Service	Bridge Payment Date	Month of APA Payment	APA Payment Issuance Date
January	3/16/2022	January 2022	2/16/2022
February	4/13/2022	February 2022	3/16/2022
March	5/11/2022	March 2022	4/13/2022
April	6/15/2022	April 2022	5/18/2022
May	7/13/2022	May 2022	6/15/2022
June	8/10/2022	June 2022	7/13/2022
July	9/14/2022	July 2022	8/17/2022
August	10/12/2022	August 2022	9/14/2022
September	11/9/2022	TBD	TBD
October	12/14/2022	TBD	TBD
November	1/11/2023	TBD	TBD
December	2/15/2023	TBD	TBD

16. Why have some of our rates increased and then decreased on our Schedule A?

Some providers may have noticed adjustments in rates, this was done in error. Please reach out to your Provider Relations Representative if you have specific questions.

17. Intensive Outpatient (IOP) services were previously part of our service model and were figured into the COVID-19 APA payment amount. With IOP no longer available as a service, there is no way that we can achieve 100% of the APA payment. How will that be accommodated?

IOP services have been taken into consideration when determining the Bridge Payment amount for each provider agency.

18. Would the percentage for the Bridge Payment be adjusted based on dates of service that are submitted after the calculation for the Bridge Payment?

Each claim that is submitted before the deadline outlined in Table A will be considered against the Bridge Payment amount. Once the Bridge Payment is issued, any dates of service that are billed for a time period that has already been issued will count against the payment of the current month. Only after the Bridge Payment and Claims Paid exceeds the APA Amount will claim payment resume for that month of service.

19. Will the amount of the IBHS Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) be adjusted? Will the IBHS APA be reconciled?

Conversations are underway regarding both the APA amount and potential reconciliation for the 2022 IBHS APA.

20. Is the COVID-19 APA payment that is being used for the Bridge Payment calculation inclusive of the 5% and 2% increases that were given in 2021?

Yes, the Bridge Payment amount calculated is based off of the COVID-19 APA and includes these increases.

21. Will ASAM OP providers receive an updated Schedule A to reflect the new case rates?

ASAM Outpatient providers who will transition to a Case Rate starting 4/1/22 will receive an updated Schedule A prior to the implementation date.

- 22.** Are providers who were not on the COVID-19 APA still eligible for the 2% increase?

The 2% increase was awarded to all providers who were on the COVID-19 APA in calendar year 2021. This increase was only applicable to the COVID-19 APA and not fee-for-service rates.

- 23.** If we provide services that will be paid via fee-for-service (and therefore will be eligible for the Bridge Payment) and services that are paid via alternative payment arrangement (and therefore would not be eligible for the Bridge Payment), how will the amounts be calculated and paid?

The Bridge Payment amount that a provider is eligible for subtracts the amount of any alternative payment arrangements (APAs). They will be paid in two separate payments and will follow the timing of Table B.

- 24.** Was the 2% increased issued at the end of December? Was there any documentation regarding this payment? Who should we contact if we did not receive the increase?

Yes, the 2% retroactive increase was issued at the end of December in [Bulletin 21-21](#). If you did not receive the retroactive increase, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.

- 25.** Will there be a filing deadline for claims submission?

For the purposes of the Bridge Payment calculation, the claims deadlines are outlined in Table A. However, claims can still be submitted per the usual 90-day requirement. Claims submitted after the dates outlined in Table A will be taken into consideration in following Bridge Payment amounts.

- 26.** How does the Bridge Payment affect providers who are currently fee-for-service?

At this time, the only providers who are eligible for a Bridge Payment are those who received the COVID-19 APA through December 2021.

- 27.** As many providers are having census and staffing issues, are there mechanisms in place to adjusting the Bridge Payment if issues persist?

Yes, CBH is committed to ongoing review of the efficacy of the Bridge Payments.

- 28.** What is the difference between an Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) and Fee-For-Service (FFS) payments?

FFS payments are a reimbursement model based on claims submission; providers will receive reimbursement for exact services rendered. APAs are a more complicated financial model that often take into account an array of services, needs, and associated risks.

- 29.** Will Bridge Payments be made on a separate wire from the 835 Claims payments?

Bridge payments will be paid according to dates in [Provider Bulletin 20-21](#). There will be one ACH transaction/deposit in instances where fee for service claims payments are due in the same week as the bridge payment. The 835 will provide details for all payments, and bridge payments will be listed as a separate item.

- 30.** Will providers that take third party liability (TPL) insurance and then balance bill CBH be taken into consideration for the Bridge Payment calculation? What about opioid treatment being billed to Medicare, as Opioid Treatment for Medicare clients is a monthly case rate that CBH partially pays?

If payable claims are billed after the Bridge Payment was made for the month in question, we will offset these claim payments from the Bridge Payment, until fully recouped. The claims will not be denied but will be indicated with a zero-dollar payment with an appropriate reason code. Once the Bridge Payment for the month is recouped, if the provider submits more payable claims for the same month, they will be reimbursed at their fee-for-service rate.