

Oregon Medicaid Reimbursement for Community Health Workers (CHW) FAQs

On September 1, 2020, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) released a billing guidance document called [Oregon Medicaid Fee-for-Service Reimbursement for Community Health Workers](#). PacificSource Community Solutions (PCS) was pleased to receive this guidance, and to share it with our provider communities.

Here are some Medicaid billing questions Community Health Workers (CHW) may have:

I'm a CHW associated with a provider group, and I plan to bill under the group's tax ID. Does OHA's guidance apply to me?

Yes. To be eligible for reimbursement, CHW providers must be associated with a provider group. Community Health Workers belonging to a provider group may bill as the rendering provider.

What is considered a "group"?

A "group" means physicians and/or providers organized as a single professional entity, and recognized under state law as such.

What is required of CHWs in order to bill Oregon Medicaid for services?

All CHWs billing Medicaid must be trained by an OHA-approved trainer (or qualify to "grandparent" in), then apply to the OHA's Office of Equity and Inclusion to become a certified Traditional Health Worker. For more information, see the [instructions on OHA's site](#) and our [Community Health Worker Certification Instructions](#).

Do CHWs need to be credentialed like other providers?

CHWs who are part of a contracted group must be "validated" through the Credentialing Department. Validation is a simplified version of credentialing for nonlicensed providers. Validation applications are available on the [PCS website](#).

I'm a CHW associated with a provider group. Whose billing information should be listed on the claims form?

When billing Medicaid, Community Health Workers should

1. Include themselves as the rendering provider; and
2. Use the group's billing info, as claims are paid to the group rather than the rendering provider.

As a CHW, will I need to have an individual National Provider Identifier (NPI) number?

Yes, all providers who render care and plan to bill for services must obtain an individual National Provider Identifier (NPI).

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How can I obtain an individual National Provider Identifier (NPI) number?

You may request an NPI by visiting the [National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\)](#) site.

Which type of NPI do I need?

Every individual provider must have a Type 1 NPI. If the provider group where you work as a CHW has a federal tax ID, the provider group will also need to have a Type 2 or “Group” NPI.

Once you and the provider group have your Type 1 and Type 2 NPI numbers, the provider group can also request a Medicaid ID.

Which taxonomy code should I use?

Select taxonomy code 172V00000X (for Community Health Workers).

Are CHWs required to have a Medicaid Identification number?

Yes. The state of Oregon requires any billing or rendering provider seeking to be reimbursed for services under a Medicaid benefit to enroll with OHA and obtain a Medicaid Identification number, under OAR 410-120-1260.

How do I obtain a Medicaid Identification number?

As a CCO, PacificSource Community Solutions is responsible for helping providers become enrolled. Please see our [Medicaid Provider Enrollment Guide](#) to get started.

Where can I find Medicaid Identification enrollment applications?

Here is the [Provider Medicaid ID Application](#).

Here is the [Organization Medicaid ID Application](#).

And here is the [OHA Provider Enrollment Agreement](#).

Will Medicaid pay for all of my services as a Community Health Worker?

The scope of a Community Health Worker’s practice may include activities that are currently not Medicaid billable—for example, coordinating community-building events or advocating on behalf of your community for systems change. You can learn more about what Oregon Medicaid covers [at their site](#).

For further information, please reach out to your Provider Service Representative or your CCO region’s Traditional Health Worker Liaison.

Helpful Links

- Learn about [InTouch for Providers](#)
- [Register or log in to InTouch for Providers](#)
- Find your assigned [Provider Service Representative](#)
- Visit our [Provider Manual](#)
- Explore available [Provider Training and Workshops](#)
- Learn how to become a [Certified Community Health Worker with OHA](#)