

January 23, 2025

THE CERTIFIED FAMILY PARTNER (CFP) SERVICES NEW MEDICAID BENEFIT EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Effective for dates of service on or after March 1, 2025, CFP services, also referred to as family partner support services or family peer support services, will be a benefit of Texas Medicaid for parents (birth, adoptive, and foster), legally authorized representatives (LARs), or primary caregivers of a Medicaid-eligible child or youth (20 years of age and younger) who is diagnosed with a serious emotional disturbance (SED) or a mental health or substance use condition, as defined in the current edition of the *American Psychiatric Association's (APA's) Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* and who has CFP services included as a component in their person-centered and trauma-informed recovery plan (henceforth, referred to as the plan of care).

KEY DETAILS

CFP services are an array of formal and informal services and supports that include the following:

- Introducing parents, LARs or primary caregivers to the mental health and substance use system
- Modeling advocacy skills
- Providing education and information
- Making referrals
- Providing skills training
- Assisting in identifying supports
- Conducting support groups
- Helping with navigating systems, such as the juvenile justice system, child protective services, and independent school districts

CFP services are provided directly to the parents, LARs or primary caregivers, not to the Medicaid-eligible child or youth.

CFP services may be provided in the office, home, outpatient hospital, and “other location” settings. CFP services may also be provided by telehealth if certain conditions are met.

CFP services may be delivered as part of a coordinated, comprehensive and individualized approach to treating a Medicaid-eligible child's or youth's SED or mental health or substance use condition. CFPs may not submit claims directly to Texas Medicaid for services. CFPs must be employed by one of the following Medicaid-enrolled provider types that may submit claims for the CFP services rendered:

- Clinic and group practices treating behavioral health conditions
- Physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants treating behavioral health conditions

- Licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors
- Comprehensive provider agencies of mental health targeted case management and mental health rehabilitative services
- Local mental health or behavioral health authorities (LMHAs or LBHAs)
- Chemical dependency treatment facilities
- Federally qualified health centers
- Rural health clinics
- Opioid treatment providers

CFP services are limited to 104 units in a rolling 6-month period. A billable unit of CFP services, using procedure code S9482, is 15 minutes of continuous contact.

In fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid, prior authorization is not required for the first 104 units (26 hours) of CFP services in a rolling six-month period. Prior authorization is required in FFS Medicaid once the 104 units (26 hours) of CFP services (individual or group) in a rolling six-month period is exceeded.

ACTION

MCOs must have systems and processes in place to be able to provide CFP services to parents (birth, adoptive, and foster), LARs or primary caregivers of a Medicaid-eligible child or youth (20 years of age and younger) who is diagnosed with a SED or a mental health or substance use condition, as defined in the current edition of the APA's DSM and who has CFP services included as a component in their plan of care by March 1, 2025. Please inform providers of the new benefit.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information about the benefit will be published in the *Behavioral Health and Case Management Services Handbook (Vol. 2, Provider Handbooks)* in the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual.

RESOURCES

- [Certified Family Partners Final Draft Policy 20250301](#)
- To access the provider notification on the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership website, go to [Certified Family Partner Services to Become a Benefit of Texas Medicaid on March 1, 2025](#)