I. Fee Schedule Pricing for Professional Services

Except as otherwise provided in this state plan, payment to providers on a fee for service basis is limited to the lesser of the actual charge or the fee schedule established by the Department.

There is no differentiation between governmental and non-governmental providers with regard to reimbursement for the same services. The fees are available in a published fee schedule, except as otherwise indicated.

A group practice or other legal entity including a licensed treatment and diagnostic center is reimbursed at the rate payable to the individual performing physician or provider.

Reimbursement for physician services furnished in hospital outpatient institutional settings that are also ordinarily furnished in a physician’s office is determined by using the Department’s fee schedule for each professional service and multiplying the allowed amount by .60. This reimbursement methodology is applicable only to a physician’s practitioner’s professional services in hospital outpatient settings (i.e., a hospital clinic, hospital office, the outpatient department), as identified by Medicare for which Medicare reduces the practitioner’s payment to a facility-based rate.

Payment for the professional component of a radiology service performed in an inpatient, outpatient or office setting will not exceed 40 percent of the allowed amount payable for the complete procedure in an office setting. Nuclear medicine, radiation oncology, CT scans, and arteriogram are excluded from this limitation.

Supplemental Payments will be made in addition to payments otherwise provided under the state plan to physicians, dentists and mental health professionals who qualify for such payments under the criteria outlined below in part (a) of this section. The payment methodology for establishing and making the supplemental payments is provided below in parts (b) and (c) of this section. The average commercial rate is updated quarterly.

a. To qualify for a supplemental payment under this section, the provider must meet the following criteria.
   i. Be a licensed physician, dentist or mental health professional enrolled in the New Mexico Medicaid program; and
   ii. Be a member of a practice plan under contract to provide professional services at a state-owned academic medical center as determined by the Department.
b. For providers qualifying under part (a) of this section, a quarterly supplemental payment will be made equal to the difference between Medicaid payments otherwise made to these providers and the average rate paid for the services by commercial insurers.

The average commercial rates are determined by:

i. Calculating a commercial payment to charge ratio for all services paid to the eligible providers by commercial insurers using the providers’ claims-specific data from the most currently available fiscal year period.

ii. Multiplying the Medicaid charges by the commercial payment to charge ratio to establish the estimated commercial payments to be made for these services; and

iii. Subtracting the interim Medicaid payments already made for these services to establish the supplemental payment amount.

c. Providers eligible under Part (a) of this section will be paid on an interim claims-specific basis through the Department’s claims processing system using the methodology outlined elsewhere in this state plan. The supplemental payment, which represents final payment for services, will be made on a quarterly basis subject to available claims data.

A. Medical and Dental Services

Medical and dental services are reimbursed on a fee schedule basis and include physicians, dentists, radiologists, and radiological facilities, licensed treatment and diagnostic centers and family planning clinics, podiatrists, optometrists, certified nurse midwives and certified nurse practitioners working under the direction of a physician.

Preventive services provided to alternative benefit plan recipients not otherwise covered under standard Medicaid benefits are also reimbursed using this methodology including annual preventive care physicals, expanded nutritional and dietary counseling, and expanded skin cancer and tobacco use counseling. Electroconvulsive therapy services provided to alternative benefit plan recipients not otherwise covered under standard Medicaid benefits are paid at the Medicare fee schedule rate.

Services rendered under the supervision of one of the above providers are paid at the fee schedule rate for the supervising provider when the service is performed by one of the following: a dietician; clinical pharmacist; physician assistant; dental hygienist; nurse; certified nurse practitioner; or, clinical nurse specialist.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services.
Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules, at: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-schedules.aspx Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.

B. Other Practitioners Services

1. Behavioral health professional services are reimbursed on a fee schedule basis applicable to psychologists, counselors, therapists, licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors, behavioral health agencies, licensed independent social workers and psychiatric clinical nurse specialists.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014 July 1, 2016, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, and Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules, at: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-schedules.aspx Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.

Non-independent behavioral health practitioners who are required by state law to be supervised are not paid directly for their services. Rather, payment is made to the supervising practitioner, or the appropriate group, licensed treatment and diagnostic center or agency to which the behavioral health worker belongs.

2. Independently practicing certified Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists are reimbursed at 90% of the physician fee schedule as described in Item I. A of Attachment 4.19 B, including preventive services for alternative benefit plan recipients.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014 July 1, 2016, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules, at: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-schedules.aspx Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.

3. Certified nurse anesthetists and anesthesiology assistants are reimbursed a rate per anesthesia unit for the procedure and for units of time for medically directed and non-medically directed services.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014 July 1, 2016, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules, at:
Licensed Midwives (Lay Midwives): Payments to licensed midwives are reimbursed at 77% of the physician fee schedule as described in Item I. A of Attachment 4.19 B for global delivery codes; payments for other codes are reimbursed at 100% of the physician fee schedule.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, Under Fee Schedule. Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.

C. Other Services

1. Ambulatory Surgical Centers Services

Free standing ambulatory surgical centers are paid at the Medicare fee schedule. For procedures not covered by Medicare, the Department establishes a fee schedule amount equivalent to the amount allowed for procedure of similar complexity.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules. Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.

2. Renal Dialysis Facilities

Renal dialysis facilities are paid at the Medicare fee schedule. For procedures not covered by Medicare, the Department establishes a fee schedule amount equivalent to the amount allowed for procedure of similar complexity.

The agency’s fee schedule rates were set as of March 31, 2014, and are effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates and any updates or periodic adjustments to the fee schedule are published on the agency’s website for the New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division, Providers, Fee for Service, under Fee Schedules. Notice of changes to rates will be made as required by 42 CFR 447.205.