

Special Education And Other Educational Services

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Authority: [32 CFR 199.5\(c\)\(3\)](#) and [\(c\)\(4\)](#)

1.0 CPT¹ PROCEDURE CODES

99199, 99600

2.0 POLICY

2.1 Special education, within the meaning of such term as used in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementing regulations and policies, may be cost-shared subject to all applicable Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) requirements, and in particular, the requirement that other public programs and facilities be used to the extent available and adequate.

2.2 Identification of appropriate public facilities. The local educational agency with responsibility for the beneficiary is the sole public facility to provide public facility use certification for special education services.

2.3 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) reinforcement is included as an "other service" non-medical benefit under this Chapter when provided in accordance with the Department of Defense (DoD) Enhanced Access to ABA Services Demonstration (Autism Demo) for ADFMs only. Payable services include "one-to-one, in person" ABA reinforcement rendered by bachelors-level Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCaBAs) and paraprofessional "ABA Tutors" working under the supervision of masters-level Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) or doctoral-level Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA-Ds) to conduct ABA reinforcement that is often provided by parents. Under the ECHO Autism Demonstration, these individuals act as "surrogate parental interventionists" who may effectively offset parental inability to implement intense level ABA reinforcement directly with their children due to one or both of parents being deployed away from home. Only those individuals who meet the ECHO Autism Demonstration requirements for Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCaBAs) or ABA Tutors and who work under the supervision of an ABA provider licensed or certified by a State or certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) as a BCBA (<http://www.bacb.com>) are eligible to provide "one-to-one, in person" ABA reinforcement. However, TRICARE cannot pay for such services when provided by family members.

2.4 Services cost-shared through the ECHO may be provided by an authorized institutional or individual professional provider on an inpatient or outpatient basis and rendered in the beneficiary's natural environment. This includes at home, at school, or other location that is suitable for the type of services being rendered.

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2.5 See the TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM), [Chapter 18, Section 8](#) for information about the DoD Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration.

3.0 EXCLUSION

Special education services are generally unavailable under the TRICARE Basic Program except as authorized under Section 1079(a)(g) of Title 10 United States Code (USC), and when authorized are not eligible to be cost-shared under ECHO.

4.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2005.

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