

Special Education

Issue Date: July 3, 1997

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 The educational modality known as “Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)” is included as a benefit under this issuance when provided by a TRICARE-authorized provider. Payable services include periodic evaluation of the beneficiary, development of a treatment plan, and training of immediate family members to provide services in accordance with the treatment plan. TRICARE can also pay for the “hands-on” ABA services when provided by a TRICARE authorized provider. However, TRICARE can not pay for such services when provided by family members, trainers or other individuals who are not TRICARE-authorized providers (see [Section 17.1](#)) and for children less than three and included in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

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.

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

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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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