



Billing Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccine Under Healthfirst's Plans

Healthfirst continues to monitor COVID-19 vaccine updates from the state and federal government and from other healthcare agencies. This guidance provides billing information on COVID-19 vaccines.

Providers that administer a COVID-19 vaccine will be reimbursed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and guidance, including Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), CARES ACT, and Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) guidance outlined below.

Medicare Plans

Healthfirst covers the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine and its administration, with no cost share to the member. Providers must bill Healthfirst directly for both the vaccine and its administration to Healthfirst members.

Medicaid Managed Care, Personal Wellness Plan, Child Health Plus, Essential Plan, and Commercial Health Insurance Plans

Healthfirst covers the cost of administering COVID-19 vaccines. However, until further notice, the federal government covers the cost of the vaccine. While not reimbursable, vaccination codes are required to be billed even though the service will be denied.

Healthcare professionals should use published AMA CPT codes when submitting COVID-19 vaccine administration and vaccination claims to Healthfirst.

Provider Alert

Participating Healthfirst providers will be reimbursed for the administration of the vaccine at their contractual rates. As of May 12, 2023, MMC plans are no longer required to reimburse out-of-network (OON) providers unless the MMC plan does not have a qualified provider in their network that can provide these services. Please refer to section 21.2a) in the Medicaid Managed Care/Family Health Plus/HIV Special Needs Plan/Health and Recovery Plan Model contract, Article V(A)(4) in the Partial Capitation Model contract, and Section 13.4(b)(xii) of the MAP contract.

For more information regarding how to register your practice with New York State Immunization Information System, [click here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine Codes

To assist CPT code users in differentiating and appropriately reporting the available vaccine product codes and their affiliated immunization administration codes, the American Medical Association (AMA) established a website that features timely updates of the Panel's actions:

- [COVID-19 CPT vaccine and immunization codes | American Medical Association \(ama-assn.org\)](https://www.ama-assn.org).
- For current **New York State Medicaid Coverage Policy and Billing Guidance for the Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines**, visit health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/covid19/guidance/docs/billing_guidance.pdf.
- This guidance sets forth New York State (NYS) Medicaid's reimbursement policy for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines approved by the FDA or authorized for emergency use and instructions for providers to bill the cost of administration of authorized COVID-19 vaccine. [Information about vaccines receiving EUA by the FDA can be found on the COVID-19 Vaccines web page](#).

Helpful Resources

- [New York State Medicaid Coverage Policy and Billing Guidance for the Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines Authorized for Emergency Use](#)
- [CMS Provider Toolkit](#)

If you have any questions, contact your Network Account Manager, or call Provider Services at **1-888-801-1660**, Monday to Friday, 8:30am–5:30pm.