

CHAPTER 539 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE NUMBER
Background	2
Policy	2
539.1 Provider Participation Requirements	2
539.2 Covered services	2
539.3 Billing	3
539.4 Presumptive Eligibility	4
Glossary	4
References	4
Change Log	4

CHAPTER 539 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

BACKGROUND

Local health departments, governed by autonomous local boards of health established in [Chapter 16 Article 2 of the West Virginia Code](#), provide public health services throughout West Virginia to include community health promotion, environmental health protection, and communicable or reportable disease prevention and control.

If the Governor declares a statewide public health emergency, the state health officer may develop emergency policies and guidelines that each of the local health departments must comply with.

POLICY

539.1 PROVIDER PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be reimbursed by West Virginia Medicaid for services delivered at the local health department, each local health department and any affiliated practitioner must be enrolled as a West Virginia Medicaid provider. Each local health department will be enrolled as a group provider (i.e., pay-to provider) by the West Virginia Medicaid fiscal agent.

Affiliated practitioners must meet all requirements for enrollment specified in [Chapter 300 Provider Participation Requirements](#) including any additional requirements in the policy governing the applicable practitioner type and specialty. At a minimum, the local health department must have a physician, physician assistant (PA), or advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) onsite when providing billable services other than services covered under standing orders as specified in section [539.2, Covered Services](#) of this Chapter. If the local health department employs a PA, the PA must be enrolled and be supervised by a physician who is enrolled in West Virginia Medicaid and affiliated with the local health department. Practitioners who volunteer services at the local health department, which will be billed to West Virginia Medicaid, must be enrolled if eligible for enrollment under West Virginia Medicaid policy.

Local health department services may be delivered via contractual arrangements with other Medicaid enrolled providers. The local health department shall bill Medicaid for the contracted services provided using Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. The contracted provider cannot bill Medicaid for the local health department services.

Local health departments may also have a separately enrolled home health unit, as governed by West Virginia Medicaid Policy under [Chapter 508 Home Health Services](#) that has a separate National Provider Identifier (NPI). The local health department home health unit must provide services and bill in accordance with the requirements of the provider type under which it is enrolled.

539.2 COVERED SERVICES

Practitioners must provide services in accordance with the policy governing the service being provided, including but not limited to:

- [Chapter 519 Practitioner Services](#): Including [Policy 519.10 Immunization Services](#), which contains all requirements related to using the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program.
- [Chapter 505 Dental Services](#)
- [Chapter 529 Laboratory Services](#)

CHAPTER 539 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Immunizations may be administered by a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) as authorized by documented standing orders signed by the local health department's medical director, in accordance with [Chapter 519 Practitioner Services, Policy 519.10 Immunization Services](#). Specific vaccines and toxoids, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), are covered through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program to Medicaid children up to their 19th birthday. The administration and provision of immune globulin, vaccine, or toxoids to adults 19 years of age and older is covered in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Please refer to the recommended adult immunization schedule.

If the local health department offers laboratory or radiological services, the facility must meet all standards as included in [Chapter 529 Laboratory Services](#) (including Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certification) and [Chapter 528 Radiology Services](#), respectively.

CLIA-waived tests may be performed by an RN or LPN, as authorized by documented standing orders signed by the local health department's medical director and will be reimbursable to the local health department.

Specimen collection may be performed by an RN or LPN, as authorized by documented standing orders signed by the local health department's medical director, this includes specimen collection for HIV-related (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing in accordance with WV Senate Bill 404. Specimen collection is included in the reimbursement for the testing and therefore is not separately reimbursable.

539.3 BILLING

Services must be billed, as defined by West Virginia Medicaid, in accordance with national coding standards, which include the use of acceptable Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. Providers must bill on a CMS-1500 form in accordance with the policy governing the service being provided. Reimbursement is made directly to the local health department for covered services provided for West Virginia Medicaid members.

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) -provided vaccine and toxoid serums are **not** reimbursable to practitioners. The administration of VFC injectable and oral/nasal vaccines or toxoids may be reimbursed when the vaccine CPT code and the appropriate administration modifier "-SL" (State Supplied Vaccine) is documented on the claim form on the same line. The administration CPT code must be billed on the second claim line and submitted to the West Virginia Medicaid fiscal agent for payment consideration.

Reimbursement for adult immunizations is based on West Virginia Medicaid established fee that includes the vaccine and administration combined. The administration fee is not separately reimbursed. The "-SL" modifier must not be used when billing.

West Virginia Medicaid reimburses pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns for vaccines or administration of vaccines as specified under [West Virginia State Code §29a](#). When covered, these services are a pharmacy benefit.

Billing for mass immunizations sites (place of service code 60), must be on a separate claim form for each West Virginia Medicaid member. A mass immunization roster is not acceptable for billing purposes.

CHAPTER 539 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

West Virginia Medicaid funds are to be used as the payment of last resort in accordance with [Chapter 600 Reimbursement Methodologies, Section 620 Third-Party Liability](#).

539.4 PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY

Presumptive Eligibility was designed to identify and provide coverage for individuals who are likely eligible for Medicaid but are not enrolled. The Affordable Care Act gave qualified entities the option to determine presumptive eligibility for certain Medicaid coverage groups. This is not an additional eligibility category; it is a method of determining temporary eligibility.

A qualified local health department may elect to make presumptive eligibility determinations for populations whose eligibility is determined using the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodology described in [Chapter 10, Section 8 of the West Virginia Income Maintenance Manual](#). For additional information see [Chapter 400 Member Eligibility](#).

GLOSSARY

Definitions in [Chapter 200, Definitions and Acronyms](#) apply to all West Virginia Medicaid services, including those covered by this chapter. Definitions in this glossary are specific to this chapter.

Local Health Department: A division of a local or larger government responsible for the oversight and care of matters relating to public health.

Public Health Emergency: An emergency need for health care services to respond to a disaster, significant outbreak of an infectious disease, bioterrorist attack or other significant or catastrophic event.

REFERENCES

[West Virginia State Code Chapter §16 Article 2](#)
[West Virginia State Code Chapter §29a](#)

CHANGE LOG

SECTION	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
New Chapter	Local Health Department Services	July 1, 2016
Entire Chapter	Background: Added language regarding the Governor's role during a Public Health Emergency for the local health departments. Updated description of local health departments	October 1, 2023

CHAPTER 539 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

	<p>Section 539.3: Added pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns for administration of vaccines.</p> <p>Added place of service code 60 for mass immunization sites</p> <p>Section 539.4: Added new section Presumptive Eligibility</p> <p>References: Deleted link to non-available webinar</p> <p>Glossary: Added the definitions of Local Health Department and Public Health Emergency.</p>	
--	---	--