

A L E R T

August 18, 2021

TO: All Pharmacy Providers

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Pharmacy Billing

Alabama Medicaid will allow reimbursement to pharmacies for a vaccine administration fee to Medicaid providers who utilize federally allocated COVID-19 vaccines. For claims effective March 15, 2021 and after, the reimbursement rate for the administration fee is \$40.00 per dose and will continue only during that time as described by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 that provides for increased FMAP for administration of the COVID-19 vaccine unless ended sooner by the Agency in a subsequent ALERT. A booster dose will be allowed.

- Pharmacies will bill vaccines through an electronic NCPDP claim.
 - Submit \$0.00 or \$0.01 for vaccine provided at no cost from the federal government.
 - Submit each vaccine with the specific approved vaccine NDC for an eligible recipient.
 - Submit the administration fee in the Incentive Amount Submitted field (NCPDP Field 438-E3) on the same claim as the vaccine (i.e., ingredient).
 - Medicaid will allow for vaccine/administration with an effective date on/after December 28, 2020.
 - For claims on/after March 15, 2021, the administration fee is \$40.00 per dose.
 - Vaccines must be administered according to approved labeling for appropriate ages and dosing interval.
 - Effective August 13, 2021, providers may submit claims for a booster dose of mRNA vaccines in moderately to severely immunocompromised patients. Please refer to the CDC guidance for third dose here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>
 - Booster doses of mRNA vaccines should be administered at least 28 days after the second dose.
 - Claims for booster doses should be submitted with a **Submission Clarification Code (SCC) (NCPDP Field 420-DK) of 07**.
 - By entering a SCC of 07, the provider is attesting that the patient meets the requirement of being moderately to severely immunocompromised.
- Per the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, either the Pharmacy or the Pharmacist NPI may be submitted on claims for COVID-19 vaccines only.
 - Claims for administration of COVID-19 vaccines with the Pharmacy or Pharmacist NPI submitted in the prescriber field should be submitted with a **SCC of 42** indicating that the prescriber ID submitted is valid and prescribing requirements have been validated.

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NCPDP Codes and Allowed Amounts for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

	Submission Clarification Code (440-E5)	Incentive Amount (Administration Fee 438-E3)	Ingredient Cost (409-D9)
Two Dose Vaccines			
First Dose	blank	\$40.00	\$0.00 or \$0.01
Second Dose	blank	\$40.00	\$0.00 or \$0.01
Booster Dose	07	\$40.00	\$0.00 or \$0.01
Single-Dose Vaccines			
Single Dose	blank	\$40.00	\$0.00 or \$0.01

- The payment rate for COVID-19 vaccine administration is \$40.00 to administer any dose of the vaccine. As of March 15, 2021, the Submission Clarification Code indicating the first and second dose is being administered is no longer required. A SCC of 07 should be included on booster doses.
- To participate in the administration of COVID-19 vaccine, Alabama providers must enroll in the Alabama Department of Public Health's (ADPH) ImmPRINT COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Follow the steps in the [ImmPRINT Registration Roadmap](#) to enroll.
- Pharmacies must follow state and federal laws and regulations regarding administration of vaccines.
- State and federal standing order guidelines for products granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) must be followed. Standing order guidelines can be found at the links below.
 - Moderna: [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine: Standing Orders for Administering Vaccine to Persons 18 Years of Age and Older \(cdc.gov\)](#)
 - Pfizer/BioNTech: [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Standing Orders for Administering Vaccine \(cdc.gov\)](#)
 - Janssen: [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine \(Johnson & Johnson\): Standing Orders for Administering Vaccine to Persons 18 Years of Age and Older \(cdc.gov\)](#)

Pharmacy providers with questions regarding vaccine administration may call the Alabama Medicaid Pharmacy Program at (334) 242-5050.