

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
State Nebraska
METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES

HOME HEALTH SERVICES

Nebraska Medicaid pays for medically prescribed and Department approved home health agency services provided by Medicare-certified home health agencies. The Department may request a cost report from any participating agency.

For dates of service on or after July 1, 1990, Medicaid pays for home health agency services at the lower of:

1. The provider's submitted charge; or
2. The allowable amount for each respective procedure in the Nebraska Medicaid Home Health Agency Fee Schedule in effect for that date of service.

Payment for supplies normally carried in the nursing bag and incidental to the nursing visit is included in the per visit rate. Medical supplies not normally carried in the nursing bag are provided by pharmacies or medical suppliers who bill Medicaid directly. Under extenuating circumstances, the home health agency may bill for a limited quantity of supplies.

Nebraska Medicaid applies the following payment limitations:

Brief services are performed by a home health or private-duty nursing service provider to complete the client's daily care in a duration of 15 minutes to two hours per visit, when medically necessary. The services may be divided into two or more trips.

When services which are reimbursed per a fee schedule, except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers. The agency's rates were set as of July 1, 2023, and are effective for home health services on or after that date. All rates are published at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Medicaid-Provider-Rates-and-Fee-Schedules.aspx>. From the landing page, scroll down to the fee schedule for the specific program and year.

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A nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or clinical nurse specialist can order home health services and certify the home health agency's plan of care. Extended Services are performed by a home health or private-duty nursing service provider when the client's needs cannot be appropriately met within the Brief Service limitation of two hours or less.

Medicaid applies the following payment limitations to nursing services (RN and LPN) for adults age 21 and older:

- a. Per diem reimbursement for nursing services for the care of ventilator-dependent clients are paid at the lower of:
 1. The provider's submitted charge;
 2. The allowable amount for each respective procedure in the Nebraska Medicaid Home Health Agency Fee Schedule in effect for that date of service; or
 3. The average ventilator-dependent per diem of all Nebraska nursing facilities which are providing that service. This average per diem shall be computed using nursing facility's ventilator rates which are effective July 1 of each year, and are applicable for that state fiscal year period.

- b. Per diem reimbursement for all other in-home nursing services are paid at the lower of:
 1. The provider's submitted charge;
 2. The allowable amount for each respective procedure in the Nebraska Medicaid Home Health Agency Fee Schedule in effect for that date of service; or
 3. The Extensive Services 2 case-mix reimbursement level. This average shall be computed using the Extensive Services 2 case-mix nursing facility rates which are effective July 1 of each year, and applicable for that state fiscal year period.

Under special circumstances, the per diem reimbursement may exceed this maximum for a short period of time - for example, a recent return from a hospital stay. However, in these cases, the 30 day average of the in-home nursing per diems shall not exceed the maximum above. (The 30 days are defined to include the days which are paid in excess of the maximum plus those days immediately following, totaling 30.) When services which are reimbursed per a fee schedule, except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers. The agency's rates were set as of July 1, 2023, and are effective for home health services on or after that date. All rates are published at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Medicaid-Provider-Rates-and-Fee-Schedules.aspx>. From the landing page, scroll down to the fee schedule for the specific program and year.

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Payment for Telehealth Services: Payment for telehealth services is set at the Medicaid rate for the comparable in-person service.

Payment for Telehealth Transmission Costs: Payment for telehealth transmission costs is set at the lower of: (1) the provider's submitted charge; or (2) the maximum allowable amount.

The Department reimburses transmission costs for line charges when directly related to a covered telehealth service. The transmission must be in compliance with the quality standards for real time, two way interactive audiovisual transmission as set forth in state regulations, as amended.

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