Medicaid Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services for Children and Youth With Autism



## What is ABA?

ABA is one of many services available for Medicaid members, age 20 or younger, who have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

ABA is a treatment approach provided by specialists called licensed behavior analysts (LBAs).

If your child is eligible, ABA can help:

- Encourage positive and adaptive behaviors.
- Apply skills across everyday settings so they can improve their health, safety or independence.

### How can you get ABA services for your child?

Your child will need an evaluation to determine if they qualify for Medicaid ABA services. To learn more, call:

- Your child's primary care provider. (They will have to check the criteria needed for the diagnosis of ASD in Texas Medicaid.)
- Your health plan using the phone number on the back of your health plan ID card.
- The Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) Contact Center at 800-925-9126.

### **How ABA Services Work**

ABA services can be delivered in the home, community or in a clinic by an LBA.

#### When you meet with an LBA:

- They'll work with your child and your family to create a treatment plan. Your child and family will learn strategies to use at home and in the community wherever your family goes.
- They can coordinate with your child's therapists and other providers up to twice a year to ensure a team approach to your child's treatment.

Your involvement is needed. ABA works best when parents and caregivers use the training and strategies in their daily lives.



To find an LBA, you can use TMHP's Online Provider Look-up tool at opl.tmhp.com.

This guide can help you use the Online Provider Look-up tool, and it includes your health plan's directory: Medicaid LBA\_OPL\_MCO directories

# Other Medicaid Autism Services

Medicaid covers many services for children with autism, including:

- Case management/care coordination (with parent permission).
- Early Childhood Intervention.
- Medical nutrition counseling provided by a licensed dietitian.
- Occupational, physical and speech therapy.
- Outpatient behavioral health services.
- Physician services, including medication management.



