**Behavioral Health**

Medicaid is the single largest payer in the United States for behavioral health services, including mental health and substance use services. All state Medicaid programs must cover specific behavioral health services, including medically necessary inpatient and outpatient hospital services, rural health clinic services, nursing facility services, home health services, and physician services. These behavioral health services can be provided under various statutory authorities, including state plans, different waivers, and other Medicaid payment regulations.

**Learn More About These Topics**

[Behavioral health benefits](https://www.macpac.gov/subtopic/behavioral-health-benefits/)

[EPSDT in Medicaid](https://www.macpac.gov/subtopic/epsdt-in-medicaid/)

[Substance Use Disorder](https://www.macpac.gov/topic/substance-use-disorder/)

**Featured Publications**

[Introduction to Work on Residential Services for Youth with Behavioral Health Needs](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/introduction-to-work-on-residential-services-for-youth-with-behavioral-health-needs/)

[Access in Brief: Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/access-in-brief-children-and-youth-with-special-health-care-needs-2/)

[School-Based Behavioral Health Services for Students Enrolled in Medicaid](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/school-based-behavioral-health-services-for-students-enrolled-in-medicaid/)

[Access in Brief: Behavioral Health and Beneficiary Satisfaction by Race and Ethnicity](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/access-in-brief-behavioral-health-and-beneficiary-satisfaction-by-race-and-ethnicity/)

[Access to Mental Health Services for Adults Covered by Medicaid](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/access-to-mental-health-services-for-adults-covered-by-medicaid/)

[Access to Behavioral Health Services for Children and Adolescents Covered by Medicaid and CHIP](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/access-to-behavioral-health-services-for-children-and-adolescents-covered-by-medicaid-and-chip/)

[State Coverage Policies of Mental Health Services for Adults](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/state-coverage-policies-of-mental-health-services-for-adults/)

[Encouraging Health Information Technology Adoption in Behavioral Health: Recommendations for Action](https://www.macpac.gov/publication/encouraging-health-information-technology-adoption-in-behavioral-health-recommendations-for-action/)