

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director/Medicaid Director

Transmittal # 19-20

TO: Board Certified Lactation Consultants

FROM: Melisa Byrd *MB*
Senior Deputy Director/State Medicaid Director

DATE: September 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Enrollment & Code and Rate for Lactation Consultation Services

The purpose of this transmittal is to announce that board certified lactation consultants (non-physician; certified mid wife or registered lactation consultant) can now enroll as a provider with the District of Columbia (DC) Medicaid program and bill for lactation consultation services as covered under ‘pregnancy-related services’ under the District’s State Medicaid Plan. Lactation consultation services offered by lactation consultants shall be billed under HCPCS code S9443 and reimbursed at a rate of \$15.63 per unit (1 unit = 15 minutes) with a maximum of four units per visit and a total of four (4) visits or 16 units for 120 days after delivery effective January 1, 2019.

The DC Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) strives to improve the health of the Medicaid-enrolled beneficiaries. DHCF issued Transmittal 14-21 on April 11, 2014 (<https://dhcf.dc.gov/publication/medicaid-update-transmittal-14-21-policy-regarding-medicaid-coverage-promote-breast>) stating its policy on covering services to promote breastfeeding under DC Medicaid. One of the services outlined in the Transmittal to promote and provide support for breastfeeding in DC Medicaid was lactation consultation services to DC Medicaid-eligible women for their newborns. The following table summarizes the code, the rate and other information that should be used for billing DHCF for these services.

Procedure Code S9443 Description

Proc Code	Description	Prior Authorization Needed	Unit Price	Max Unit
S9443	Lactation classes, non-physician provider	No	\$15.63	4

The DC Medicaid Fee Schedule is located on the DHCF website at <https://www.dc-medicaid.com/dcwebportal/nonsecure/feeScheduleDownload>.

Provider Enrollment Requirements and Process

In order to provide lactation consultation services, lactation consultants are required to enroll in the DC Medicaid program. The first step that lactation consultants must take to enroll is to create an account at www.dcpdms.com and submit an online enrollment application. When the lactation consultant is creating their account, they should begin the enrollment process by selecting the application type: **Standard Application** and then selecting provider type: **Lactation Consultant**. Lactation consultants have the option to enroll as an “individual/solo” or “group”. In addition to the general application requirements, there are two fundamental requirements that must be met: (1) lactation consultants must have a National Provider Identifier (NPI) and (2) demonstrate current international board certification by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) to deliver lactation consultation, education, and support to breastfeeding mothers.

Contact DHCF

If you have questions regarding this fee schedule update, please contact Amy Xing, Reimbursement Analyst, Office of Rates, Reimbursement and Financial Analysis (ORRFA) Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), at amy.xing2@dc.gov, or via telephone at (202) 481-3375.

If you have questions regarding enrollment, please contact Natasha Lewis, Management Analyst, Health Care Operations Administration (HCOA), Division of Public and Private Provider Services (DPPPS) Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), at natasha.lewis@dc.gov, or via telephone at (202) 698-2006.

cc: Medical Society of the District of Columbia
DC Hospital Association
DC Primary Care Association
DC Health Care Association
DC Home Care Association
DC Behavioral Health Association
DC Coalition of Disability Service Providers