

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

“This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Nebraska Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.”

Pursuant to
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-901.03

To: Nebraska Medicaid Managed Care Plans
From: Drew Gonshorowski, Director *DG*
Date: December 1, 2025
Re: Changes to Coverage for Therapeutic and Medical Leave Days

This health plan advisory is being issued to notify the Heritage Health plans of changes to coverage for therapeutic and medical leave days for secure psychiatric residential rehabilitation (SPRR), assertive community treatment (ACT), and therapeutic group home (THGH), effective **January 1, 2026**. The corresponding provider bulletin, Provider Bulletin 25-26 rescinds Provider Bulletin 19-09.

Reimbursement for leave days is no longer included in the updated mental health or substance use regulations (Nebraska Administrative Code Title 471, Chapters 20, 32, and 35). In alignment with these changes, starting January 1, 2026, Medicaid will no longer reimburse for therapeutic or medical leave days for SPRR, ACT, or THGH programs.

For more information:

More information about mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services and the Nebraska Medicaid coverage of SPRR, ACT, and THGH services is available at:

Nebraska Administrative Code Title 471, Chapters 20, 32, and 35:

<https://rules.nebraska.gov/rules?agencyId=37&titleId=226>

Nebraska Medicaid State Plan:


<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/Medicaid%20State%20Plan%20Part%202.pdf>

Nebraska Medicaid Service Definitions:

- <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Behavioral%20Health%20Service%20Definitions/Secure%20Psychiatric%20Residential.pdf>
- <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Behavioral%20Health%20Service%20Definitions/Assertive%20Community%20Treatment.pdf>
- <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Behavioral%20Health%20Service%20Definitions/Therapeutic%20Group%20Home.pdf>

Reimbursement rates: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Medicaid-Provider-Rates-and-Fee-Schedules.aspx>

If you have questions regarding this advisory, please contact DHHS.MedicaidMHSU@nebraska.gov. Health plans should also copy their contract manager.



Health Plan Advisories, such as this one, are posted on the DHHS website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Heritage-Health-Plan-Advisories.aspx>. Please subscribe to the page to help you stay up to date about new Health Plan Advisories.