

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

INTERPRETATION SERVICES

Nebraska Medicaid reimburses providers for sign language, oral interpretive, and translator services for limited and non-English speaking members and/or deaf or hard of hearing members, when these services are necessary and reasonable to communicate effectively with members in conjunction with another Medicaid-covered service.

Interpretation services can only be covered in conjunction with another covered Nebraska Medicaid service or medically necessary follow-up visit(s) to the initial covered service. To be reimbursable, the interpretation service must be provided by:

- A staff member of the Billing Provider;
- An individual/agency who is contracted with the Billing Provider
- An interpretation phone service contracted with the Billing Provider; or
- Equipment that provides translation and interpretation support, such as Communication Access Real-Time Translation (CART)

Providers must use the billing code designated by the Department when billing for reimbursement for interpreters for members with limited English proficiency (LEP) and communication services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing:

- Maximum units to be billed per Nebraska Medicaid service/service delivery date are 8 units. One unit is equivalent to 15 minutes of interpretation service.
 - Residential or facility-based providers may bill for additional units in excess of 8 units per day as deemed necessary during the covered healthcare service stay.

The agency's fee schedule rate was set as of July 1, 2024, and is effective for interpretation services provided on or after that date. All rates are published on the agency's website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Medicaid-Provider-Rates-and-FeeSchedules.aspx>. From the landing page, scroll down to the fee schedule for the specific program and year.

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