

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: August 8, 2023

Subject: Individual Placement and Support

Summary: Individual Placement and Support (IPS) ACT Teams

The rate of payment for Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), H0039, is being adjusted to account for the incorporation of Individual Placement Support as a component of the service.

Individual Placement and Support

Effective **October 1, 2023**, Individual Placement Support (IPS) will be incorporated as a component of Assertive Community Treatment (ACT).

Employment services provided through ACT programming will adhere to tenets of the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model of supported employment. IPS is an evidence-based practice of supported employment for members with mental illness designed to enhance the quality of employment services and overall employment outcomes for members.

The ACT team must now employ IPS Specialist and IPS Supervisor as part of their ACT teams to provide services.

For more information, please view the [Louisiana Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Manual](#).

Staffing Requirements

At least one dedicated IPS specialist and an IPS supervisor comprise the employment unit. The requirements for IPS specialist and IPS supervisors are indicated as follows:

IPS Specialist

1. High school diploma is required.
2. Two years post high school experience in employment.
3. One year experience working with people with severe mental illness.
4. Successfully completed IPS training prior to providing services; and
5. Have current IPS Certification or achieve certification within two (2) years.

IPS Supervisor

1. Master's degree in rehabilitation counseling or mental health field is preferred; Bachelor's degree is required. Previous experience as an employment specialist is necessary.
2. Experience working with people with severe mental illness.

3. At least one (1) year experience in employment services.
4. Successfully completed IPS training prior to providing services; and
5. Have current IPS certification or achieve certification within two (2) years.

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

Missed an alert? You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Need to update your provider information? Send full details to network@amerihealthcaritasla.com.

NON-LICENSED STAFF

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NON-LICENSE CHECKLIST

Non licensed Staff/CPST/PSR/IPS

Agency Name:

Individual Name:

Credentials:

- CIT- Counselor in Training
- RAD- Registered Addiction Counselor
- CAC-Certified Addiction Counselor
- Non-Licensed Staff
 - Master
 - Bachelor
 - Less than bachelor's degree

PSR

- Bachelor's Degree
 - Counseling
 - Social Work
 - Psychology
 - Sociology
 - Rehabilitation Services
 - Special Education
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Secondary Education
 - Family and Consumer Sciences
 - Criminal Justice
 - Human Growth and Development
- Less than bachelor's degree (Grandfathered)

CPST

- PLPC- Provisionally Licensed Professional Counselor
- PLMFT- Provisionally Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
- LMSW- Licensed Master Social Worker
- CSW- Certified Social Worker
- Psychology Interim

Required Documents needed:

- Complete Behavioral Health Attestation
- Degree or Transcript

- Enrollment form

Individual Placement and Support Services

- IPS Specialist

Required Documents needed:

- Enrollment Form
- High School Diploma
- Completion of IPS Training

- IPS Supervisor

Required Documents needed:

- Enrollment Form
- Bachelor/master's degree (documentation is required)
 - Master's degree in rehabilitation counseling or mental health field is preferred.
 - Bachelor's degree is required. Previous experience as an employment specialist is necessary.
 - Experience working with people with severe mental illness
 - Successfully completed IPS training prior to providing services; and
 - Have current IPS certification, or is working towards certification