



Delaware Annual Behavioral Health Well Check

What is this? Delaware House Bill 303, as amended by House Amendment 2, was signed into law on August 3, 2022 and includes requirements that become effective on January 1, 2024. Starting January 1, 2024, the law will require coverage of an annual behavioral health well check with a licensed mental health clinician with at minimum a masters level degree, using the diagnosis of “annual behavioral health well check.” Such coverage is in addition to an annual preventive office visit with a medical care provider. The law requires carriers to provide pre-deductible coverage for an annual* behavioral health well check and requires this coverage for fully-insured individual, fully-insured group, State of Delaware Employee Group Health Insurance Program, and State Medicaid assistance plans.

The well check must include: A review of medical history, evaluation of adverse childhood experiences, use of a group of developmentally appropriate mental health screening tools. **The well check may include:** Anticipatory behavioral health guidance congruent with stage of life.

Reimbursement:

Use of diagnosis codes for annual wellness check up: **Z0000, Z0001, Z00110, Z00111, Z00121, Z00129**

The annual behavioral health well check must be reimbursed through the **following CPT codes** at the same rate that such CPT codes are reimbursed for the provision of other medical care.

99381, 99391 - Infant (age under 1 year)
99382, 99392 - Early Childhood (ages 1 through 4 years)
99383, 99393 - Late Childhood (ages 5 through 11 years)
99384, 99394 - Adolescent (ages 12 through 17 years)

99385, 99395 - 18-39 years
99386, 99396 - 40-64 years
99387, 99397 - 65 years and over

*Resets every January

See next page for more information



Delaware General Assembly House Bill 303 notes:¹

- **The COVID-19 public health crisis** has caused an increase in pediatric psychiatric related emergency room visits in the United States by 51% from 2020 to 2021 while decreasing adult admissions for the treatment of substance use disorders and mental health illness.
- Mental health issues come at a cost of almost **\$200 billion** in lost wages and almost **\$100 billion** in health care costs nationally.
- It is proven that **childhood trauma unaddressed** via screening and treatment lead to increased mental health disorders, substance use disorders, as well as higher rates of incarceration and negative health behaviors resulting in heightened cost for individuals across their lifespan.
- A multidiscipline analysis by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine determined that every dollar of investment in mental health and addiction prevention programs yields **a 2 to 10 times savings** in health care, criminal and juvenile justice and low productivity.

¹ <https://legis.delaware.gov/json/BillDetail/GeneratePdfDocument?legislationId=79148&legislationTypeId=1&docTypeId=2&legislationName=HB303>

Resources Available:

Highmark's Behavioral Health Toolkit is available on the Provider Resource Center. It contains screening tools, guidelines, and other resources to help you provide behavioral health care for a range of diagnoses. Find it here:

<https://hdebcbs.highmarkprc.com/Education-Manuals/Behavioral-Health-Toolkit-for-Primary-Care-Physicians>



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