



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 35 No. 07

July 2025

**TO:** Pediatricians and other providers of Pediatric Primary Care - **For Action**  
Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) - **For Action**

**SUBJECT:** NJ FamilyCare Coverage for HealthySteps

**EFFECTIVE:** Claims with service dates on or after July 1, 2025

**PURPOSE:** To provide guidance for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare enhanced reimbursement for certain services provided at HealthySteps sites

**BACKGROUND:** HealthySteps is a pediatric model of care for children ages 0-3 that is used at pediatric offices nationwide. HealthySteps promotes team-based care, comprehensive screening, and preventive care provided through a family-centered framework. HealthySteps offices have a HealthySteps Specialist, an additional member of the care team who brings specific expertise in early child development, provides behavioral health promotion and prevention services, and connects families to community-based services to address health-related social needs. Pediatric care provided at a HealthySteps office is aligned with the American Academy of Pediatrics' Bright Futures guidelines.

In accordance with HealthySteps model fidelity, some HealthySteps services may be provided to the child's caregiver(s) or other family members for the benefit of the NJ FamilyCare child aged 0-3. Depending on the pediatric member's individual situation, a HealthySteps practice will offer the family the following services:

- Screening for age-appropriate child development, behavioral health, and social-emotional health
- Assessment of family health including caregiver depression screening, health-related social needs, and identifying any other risk factors
- Family support line
- Educational resources and consults for early development, positive parenting, and child behavior with a HealthySteps Specialist
- Care coordination and systems navigation—including referrals to services by community-based organizations and other specialists
- Team-based well-child visits that include a HealthySteps Specialist

The enacted state budget includes funding for NJ FamilyCare to provide enhanced reimbursement for certain pediatric primary care services provided at offices providing the HealthySteps model of care. The enhanced reimbursement is intended to support the practice for HealthySteps associated costs, including but not limited to HealthySteps services and the required HealthySteps specialist.

The HealthySteps National Office at Zero to Three supports new practices in becoming a HealthySteps site, and also monitors existing sites' compliance with HealthySteps model fidelity. For more information on HealthySteps, please visit Zero to Three's website <https://www.healthysteps.org/> :

- For providers, the website includes information on how pediatric primary care practices can become a HealthySteps site (see menu option: "Get Started").
- For members, the website includes a search engine to find a HealthySteps practice in NJ (see menu option: "Who We Are: HealthySteps Practice Directory & Map").

**ACTION:** NJ FamilyCare will provide enhanced reimbursement for managed care pediatric well and sick visits by NJ FamilyCare children aged 0-3, when those visits occur at HealthySteps sites.

*A. Provider Notification*

HealthySteps sites must notify payers as described in this section to be eligible for enhanced reimbursement.

Zero to Three will provide annual documentation in May of every year to NJ FamilyCare of the practices meeting, or being on track to meet, HealthySteps model fidelity (see appendix for documentation template from Zero to Three). Only HealthySteps sites listed on the most current documentation from Zero to Three are eligible to receive HealthySteps-related enhanced reimbursement for the following state fiscal year (i.e., July 1-June 30). Specifically, only sites listed in the table on the first page are eligible. The additional sites listed in the appendix of the annual documentation are provided for informational purposes only.

HealthySteps sites must be in-network providers for the pediatric client's MCO to receive the enhanced reimbursement.

For reimbursement for the first set of HealthySteps sites during State Fiscal Year 2026, sites must inform all relevant MCO Provider Services departments within 30 days of the release of this Newsletter to receive reimbursement for dates of service beginning 7/1/25.

Future HealthySteps sites must inform all relevant MCO Provider Services departments 30 days prior to the effective date of enhanced reimbursement (see appendix for notification template). This is necessary to ensure managed care Provider Services staff have adequate time to confirm eligibility and to configure reimbursement accurately. Once managed care Provider Services staff have confirmed eligibility, managed care staff will provide documentation back to HealthySteps sites of the effective date for enhanced payment (using the same notification template in the appendix).

<b>Provider Services</b>	<b>Phone number</b>
Aetna Better Health of NJ	1-855-232-3596
Fidelis Care	1-888-453-2534
Horizon NJ Health	1-800-682-9091 <a href="mailto:Network_Relations@HorizonBlue.com">Network_Relations@HorizonBlue.com</a>

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan	1-888-362-3368
Wellpoint	1-800-454-3730

The “HealthySteps site” designation (i.e., model fidelity) is associated with a physical office location, and is not applied to individual clinicians or clinical groups at the billing entity level. If a billing NPI is used to submit claims or encounters provided across multiple office locations, it is the primary responsibility of the billing provider to ensure that the CPT code H0025 TL (see below) is only co-billed on claims provided at a HealthySteps designated site.

The following practices are not eligible for enhanced reimbursement for HealthySteps:

- Practices whose contract with MCOs are based on capitated payments instead of fee-for-service payments for well and sick visits should refer to their existing payment arrangements for pediatric care reimbursement.
- Federally qualified health centers

*B. Enhanced Reimbursement*

HealthySteps enhanced reimbursement is only applicable to the care of managed care NJ FamilyCare enrollees. It does not apply to fee-for-service NJ FamilyCare pediatric care.

Enhanced reimbursement for managed care pediatric well and sick visits by NJ FamilyCare children aged 0-3 will be provided for the following CPT codes:

- Well visits: 99381, 99382, 99391, 99392
- Sick visits: 99211-99215, 99202-99205

In order to receive enhanced reimbursement, the practice must co-bill the CPT code H0025 TL with one of the eligible pediatric primary care visit codes above. This CPT code will not be reimbursed if billed on its own. Billing limits for H0025 TL will mirror the existing managed care billing limits associated with those well and sick visits.

Enhanced reimbursement will be provided regardless of the individual level of HealthySteps service received by the NJ FamilyCare child at the office on that date of service, or during that billed pediatric primary care visit. HealthySteps services may be received at times outside of the pediatric primary care visit and are not eligible for further reimbursement.

The only exception is in the limited cases where behavioral health treatment is delivered by a HealthySteps specialist who is also an in-network NJ FamilyCare behavioral health provider (e.g., LCSW), practicing within their scope of licensure, and providing care in accordance to our reimbursement policies for behavioral health services. In those cases, behavioral health care can be billed separately. Reminder: Only the primary care well and sick visits provided by a pediatric primary care clinician at a HealthySteps pediatric site are eligible for the enhanced reimbursements.

The enhanced reimbursement associated with CPT code H0025 TL within managed care may not be lower than \$15. Any changes to the enhanced rate will be communicated through a Medicaid Alert and MCO contract language.

For 0-3 enrollees whose pediatric care coverage is covered by another primary insurance (i.e., in the case of third party liability), the \$15 enhanced rate will still be paid by NJ FamilyCare managed care, even if the office visit is paid for by the primary insurer.

For reimbursement for the first set of HealthySteps sites during State Fiscal Year 2026, sites should re-submit claims eligible for enhanced reimbursement that were submitted prior to the release of this newsletter. Submission of claims corrections/adjustments must be made in accordance to managed care timely filing limits.

### *C. Annual Reporting*

HealthySteps sites who accept enhanced reimbursement must agree to report aggregated metrics on their NJ FamilyCare children aged 0-3 on an annual basis. DMAHS will contact the practice through their listed Key Contact in the Zero to Three letter when this reporting is needed.

**RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**



May YYYY

Department of Human Services  
 Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services  
 P.O. Box 712  
 Trenton, NJ 08625-9712

Dear NJ FamilyCare,

I am writing to provide written confirmation that the following pediatric sites are currently meeting or are on track to meet HealthySteps model fidelity as of the date of this letter and are eligible for the enhanced payment:

Site Name	Address	Key Contact <sup>1</sup>	ID <sup>2</sup>	NPI <sup>3</sup>	Estimated number of children 0-3*

<sup>1</sup> Key staff contact for enrollment, credentialing, and billing.

<sup>2</sup> NJ Medicaid ID listed as billing ID on well-child and sick visit claims.

<sup>3</sup> NJ Medicaid NPI listed as billing NPI on well-child and sick visit claims.

\* Inclusive of children with Medicaid coverage and children with other insurance.

Please see the Appendix for additional sites that are onboarding (implementing HealthySteps) – please note that the active FQHC sites are not currently eligible for the enhanced payment due to their FQHC status.

To monitor fidelity at this time (in addition to meeting our National Office fidelity metrics), the National Office requires the following:

- Annual Site Reporting Submission,
- Annual Site Profile Form Submission, and
- A HealthySteps Specialist be employed and implementing the HealthySteps model at a pediatric site that administers well-child visits.

All of these sites meet the above criteria.

Sincerely,

[Staff Member], HealthySteps



**Appendix**

Onboarding sites:

Site Name	Address	Key Contact <sup>1</sup>	FQHC (Y/N)?	ID <sup>2</sup>	NPI <sup>3</sup>	Estimated number of children 0-3*

<sup>1</sup> Key staff contact for enrollment, credentialing, and billing.

<sup>2</sup> NJ Medicaid ID listed as billing ID on well-child and sick visit claims.

<sup>3</sup> NJ Medicaid NPI listed as billing NPI on well-child and sick visit claims.

\* Inclusive of children with Medicaid coverage and children with other insurance.

Active FQHCs, currently meeting or on track to meet HealthySteps model fidelity, but not currently eligible for the NJ Medicaid enhanced payment:

Site Name	Address	Key Contact <sup>1</sup>	ID <sup>2</sup>	NPI <sup>3</sup>	Estimated number of children 0-3*

<sup>1</sup> Key staff contact for enrollment, credentialing, and billing.

<sup>2</sup> NJ Medicaid ID listed as billing ID on well-child and sick visit claims.

<sup>3</sup> NJ Medicaid NPI listed as billing NPI on well-child and sick visit claims.

\* Inclusive of children with Medicaid coverage and children with other insurance.

**HealthySteps Enhanced Reimbursement Agreement Form**

<b>Section 1: HealthySteps Program Payment Request</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b>	
<b>Site Address:</b>	
<b>Primary HealthySteps Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Primary HealthySteps Contact Email Address:</b>	
<b>Medicaid ID #</b>	
<b>Group NPI #</b>	
<b>HealthySteps Implementation Date:</b>	
<b>Request Submission Date:</b>	
<b>Submitted by:</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	

\*By signing this form, you are attesting that your primary care location is an active HealthySteps site and you have a finalized Network Agreement with the HealthySteps National Office, a program of ZERO TO THREE.

<b>Section 2: Payer Reimbursement Approval</b>	
<b>Payer Name:</b>	
<b>Payment Effective Date:</b>	
<b>Payment Approval Date:</b>	
<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	

The form confirms that claims submitted for services provided by the primary care location in Section 1, with service dates on or after the Payment Effective Date in Section 2, will begin to be eligible for the enhanced reimbursement associated with HealthySteps sites.