



North Carolina
State Health Plan
FOR TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES



Implementation of Applied Behavior Analysis Benefit

Board of Trustees Meeting

November 21, 2014

A Division of the Department of State Treasurer

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

- In May the Board approved coverage for ABA when:
 - The member is younger than age 26, and
 - Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) by a licensed physician (MD or DO) or a licensed doctoral level clinical psychologist (PsyD or PhD) utilizing results from a face-to-face evaluation and a clinically recognized, validated tool accepted by the Mental Health Care Manager, and
 - Treatment is determined by the Mental Health Care Manager to be medically necessary.
- Coverage for ABA is limited to a maximum of \$36,000 per benefit year and is only available in-network.
- Coverage is subject to copay, deductible and coinsurance as applicable (depends on ABA component and place of service).

Implementation – BCBSNC Network Providers

- Benefit configuration is on track for January 1, 2015, effective date.
- Training on the new benefit has been completed for both member and provider Customer Service Representatives.
- Benefit information has been posted on the BCBSNC provider portal:

http://www.bcbsnc.com/content/providers/news-and-information/news/SHP_Autism_Benefit.htm

- Promotional information, including the above link, was included in the weekly provider email blast on October 31, 2014. The blast is distributed to all in-network providers.

Information – Non-Network Providers

- BCBSNC has provided supplemental information and training to the Provider Services and Network Management teams for more effective and consistent handling of calls including those from certified ABA therapists who are not licensed and do not have the credentials to participate in the network.
- Non-network providers who call the BCBSNC 1-800 number will receive information about the benefit through the interactive voice response (IVR) system.
- Customer service has set up a warm transfer protocol to Network Management for non-network providers seeking additional information about network requirements, credentialing or joining the network.