



March 24, 2020

RE: Coronavirus –Behavioral Assistance

Providers,

Empower is working to prepare and implement plans for the unique challenges related to Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Arkansas for our members and providers. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Empower is committed to enabling members to remain in their homes to reduce exposure and transmission, and to preserve our network’s capacity for the duration of this public health emergency.

Effective **March 23, 2020**, Behavioral Assistance is expanding to include the adult population for Outpatient Behavioral Health (provider type 26) providers. We will notify you via Provider Alert once configuration is complete and you can bill Empower for these services.

Behavioral Assistance

Behavioral Assistance is a specific outcome oriented intervention provided individually or in a group setting with the child/youth and/or his/her caregiver(s) that will provide the necessary support to attain the goals of the treatment plan. Services involve applying positive behavioral interventions and supports within the community to foster behaviors that are rehabilitative and restorative in nature. The intervention should result in sustainable positive behavioral changes that improve functioning, enhance the quality of life and strengthen skills in a variety of life domains. For a complete description of Behavioral Assistance, please go to the PASSE Medicaid Manual, [here](#).

Description	Code	M1	M2	Units	Daily Max	Max Allowed
Behavioral Assistance- QBHP Non-degreed	H2019	U4	00	1 Unit = 15 minutes	NA	292 per Year EOB required
Behavioral Assistance – QBHP BA or RN	H2019	U4	UC	1 Unit = 15 minutes	NA	292 per Year EOB required

Our focus remains on supporting our providers, customers and members during the declared state of emergency. Because of the fluid nature of the situation, we will continue to adjust our policies and procedures and provide updates to you as changes occur.

If you have questions about this please contact empowerhealthcaresolutionspr@empowerhcs.com

Thank you,

Empower Healthcare Solutions