

# ABA Community Webinar

Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities with  
Nevada Medicaid, Nevada Health Link, and the Division of Insurance



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March 17, 2026

[NVHA.nv.gov](https://www.nvha.nv.gov)



# Housekeeping

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2. Keep microphones muted and videos off unless speaking for accessibility
3. Use **chat** for comments and discussion
4. Use **Q&A** for questions to presenters. Questions not answered with the slide content will be answered at the end of the presentation.
5. Webinar is being recorded but will not be posted publicly
6. Slides and resources will be shared after the session
7. Engage respectfully and avoid sharing personal info or case specific information live. Please keep the conversation focused on policy and program design. If you have case specific information, please call the number located on the back of your insurance card for support.



# Agenda

1. Introductions, Welcome, and Pre-Survey Concerns
2. What is ABA?
3. Overview of Nevada Medicaid
4. Overview of Nevada Health Link
5. Overview of the Division of Insurance
6. Common Questions regarding ABA services
7. Wrap Up



# What is ABA?

## **ABA = Applied Behavior Analysis**

- **Definition:** A scientific approach to understanding and improving behavior.

## **ABA Therapy**

- **Definition:** The application of ABA methods as a therapy to teach new skills and reduce challenging behaviors.
- **Focus:** Teaches new skills and reduces challenging behaviors through structured interventions, tailored to the individual.
- **How it Works:** Uses reinforcement, prompting, and data collection to shape behavior.
- **Applications:** Commonly used in autism spectrum disorder therapy, education, and skill-building programs.



# Thank you for your feedback in the registration survey

## Key Themes included:

### 1. Access & Availability

- Limited ABA providers in certain areas, especially rural NV and Las Vegas.
- Long waitlists for services.
- Difficulty finding qualified or credentialed staff (RBT shortages).
- School-based ABA and adult transition services.

### 2. Coverage, Cost & Insurance

- Coverage limitations, denials, and inconsistent prior authorization requirements.
- High out-of-pocket costs and co-pays.
- Confusion navigating Medicaid, MCOs, FFS, and private insurance.
- Changes in reimbursement rates and coverage caps affecting providers.



# Thank you for your feedback in the registration survey, cont.

## **3. Eligibility & Administrative Challenges**

- Restrictive eligibility criteria and complex authorization paperwork.
- Lack of clarity on documentation, FA-11F, POC vs. medical necessity, and OPR requirements.
- Provider credentialing delays and panel closures.

## **4. Program & Service Information**

- Limited understanding of ABA services scope, age coverage, and lifetime limits.
- Interest in updates on program changes and new Medicaid rules.

## **5. Advocacy & Family Guidance**

- Families need guidance on navigating denials, appeals, and accessing resources.
- Support for underserved populations and non-ASD/FAS diagnoses



# Review: Types of Coverage

**Health insurance plans can vary in cost, eligibility, and covered services. Today we will review several types of coverage available in Nevada.**

## Medicaid

- Free or low-cost health coverage for eligible individuals and families
- Based on income and household size
- Covers doctor visits, hospital care, prescriptions, and more

## Nevada Check Up

- Health coverage for uninsured children under age 19
- For families who earn too much for Medicaid but still need affordable coverage
- Low monthly premiums and copays

## Individual Qualified Health Plans

- Nevada Health Link is Nevada's health insurance marketplace
- Financial assistance may be available to lower monthly premiums
- Plans offered through private insurance companies

## Employer-Sponsored Coverage

- Health insurance offered through an employer
- Employers typically share the cost of premiums
- Coverage and benefits vary by employer and plan

### ***Important to Remember***

*Every health insurance program has different eligibility rules, costs, and covered services. Today's presentation will walk through some of these options so you can better understand what may work best for your family.*



# Before we dive in: Live Poll

- 1. Which of the following best describe your relationship to the ABA community?** [¿Cuál de las siguientes opciones describe mejor su relación con la comunidad ABA?]
- 2. My zip code is:** [Mi código postal es:]
- 3. Who is your insurer?**[¿Quién es su aseguradora?]
- 4. Please describe your recent experience with obtaining or receiving ABA services (if applicable).** [Por favor, describa su experiencia reciente al intentar obtener o al recibir servicios de ABA (si corresponde).]
- 5. In the past three months, have you experienced any changes in the cost or coverage of your ABA services?** [En los últimos tres meses, ¿ha experimentado algún cambio en el costo o la cobertura de sus servicios ABA?]



# Medicaid Overview



# Quick Context: What is Medicaid?

***Nevada Medicaid is a health insurance program that provides medical, behavioral health, pharmacy, and dental benefits to Nevadans who qualify based on their income, disability status, or other healthcare needs.***

**730,000**

Total Nevadans who receive health insurance through Nevada Medicaid

**1 in 4**

Nevadans receive health insurance coverage through Nevada Medicaid

**\$5 billion**

Total dollars spent by Nevada Medicaid (both State & Federal funds) biennially





# Quick Context: What is Managed Care?

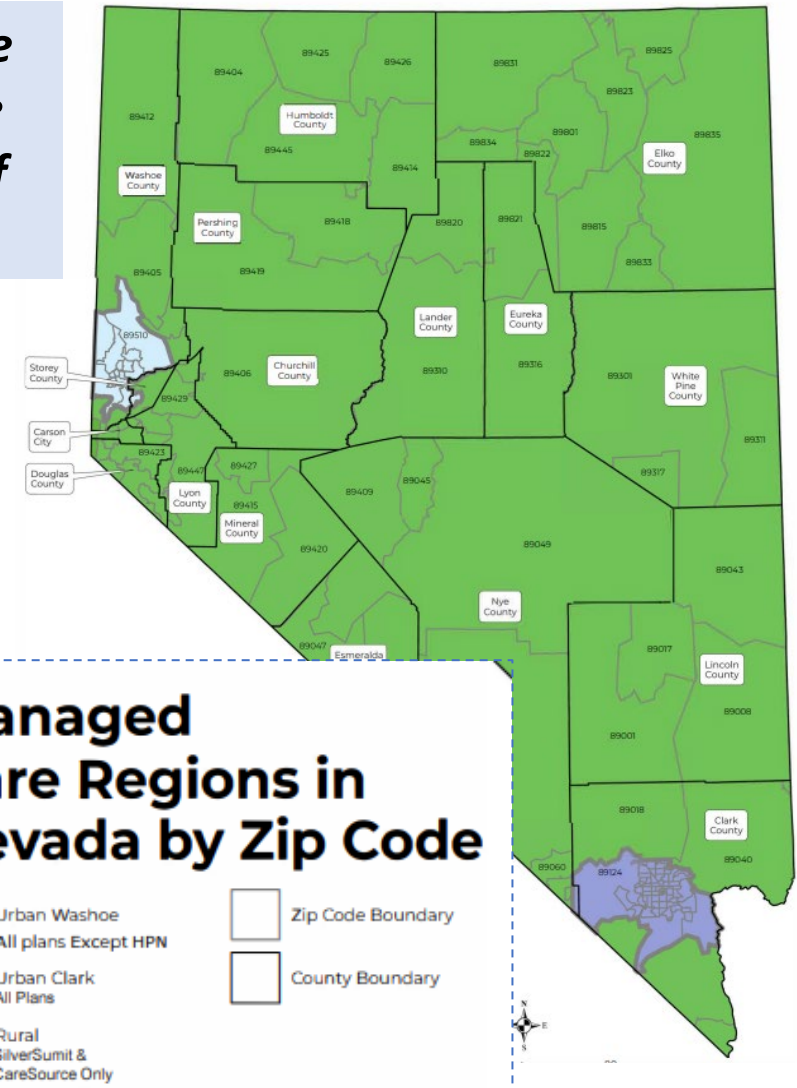
***There are two types of "delivery systems" in Medicaid that manage the program, pay providers, and help members access care. You can figure out which program you are in by checking what name is on the back of your insurance card!***

## Medicaid Managed Care System

- The State contracts with managed care organizations (MCOs) to deliver Medicaid coverage
- MCOs create networks of providers, with coverage and reimbursements aligning with State requirements
- In Nevada, around 90% of Medicaid recipients receive care through an MCO (i.e. children, parents, adults without kids)

## Fee For Service System

- The State directly manages the Medicaid delivery system
- Providers enroll and bill the State directly for services delivered to FFS recipients
- In Nevada, people with disabilities, seniors, and youth in Foster Care are currently served by FFS





# What ABA coverage does Medicaid provide?

- Nevada Medicaid covers ABA services as of January 1, 2016.
- All policy information can be found in [Medicaid Service Manual, Chapter 3700](#).
  - Policy updates are made on a regular basis; the latest update was on **April 1, 2024**.

## Policy coverage in summary:

- Available to Medicaid recipients of any age for whom ABA is medically necessary
- Requires a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) or other condition for which ABA is recognized as medically necessary
  - Diagnosis is submitted on a FA11-F noting the appropriate diagnostic tool
- ABA services include a range of assessment and clinical services; see next slide for details and prior authorization!



# What ABA services are covered by Medicaid?

- **Services covered:**

- ✓ Assessments
- ✓ Adaptive Behavior Treatment (Individual & Group)
- ✓ Adaptive Behavior Family Treatment without child present
- ✓ Adaptive Behavior Family Treatment with child present

- **This includes two models of care:**

- Focused Model: Treatment directly provided to the individual for a limited number of specific behavioral targets.
- Comprehensive Model: Treatment directly provided to the individual for multiple behavioral targets across domains of functioning, including cognitive, communicative, social and emotional.

- **Prior authorization**: Required for all services, except the assessment. The assessment is allowed 1 time every 180 days.

- **Rates and codes** are available on the upcoming "Resources" slide.





# How do Medicaid Managed Care Organizations cover ABA services?

- Managed Care Organizations provide coverage for all services in the Medicaid State Plan, as well as additional "value-added services" to support their members' healthcare and social needs.
  - There are 5 MCOs in Nevada and all 5 provide ABA in accordance with Medicaid policy.
- The one area that may vary between MCOs is prior authorization. As long as MCOs meet certain standards set by Nevada Medicaid to ensure services are available when medically necessary, MCOs may set their own requirements and process for prior authorization.
  - All MCOs and the State's FFS program must comply with State and Federal requirements for responding and making decisions on prior authorization requests.

***Questions on your ABA coverage or a prior authorization? Please reach out to your MCO or the State's District Office team if you have any questions on a prior authorization, using the information on the back of your insurance card!***

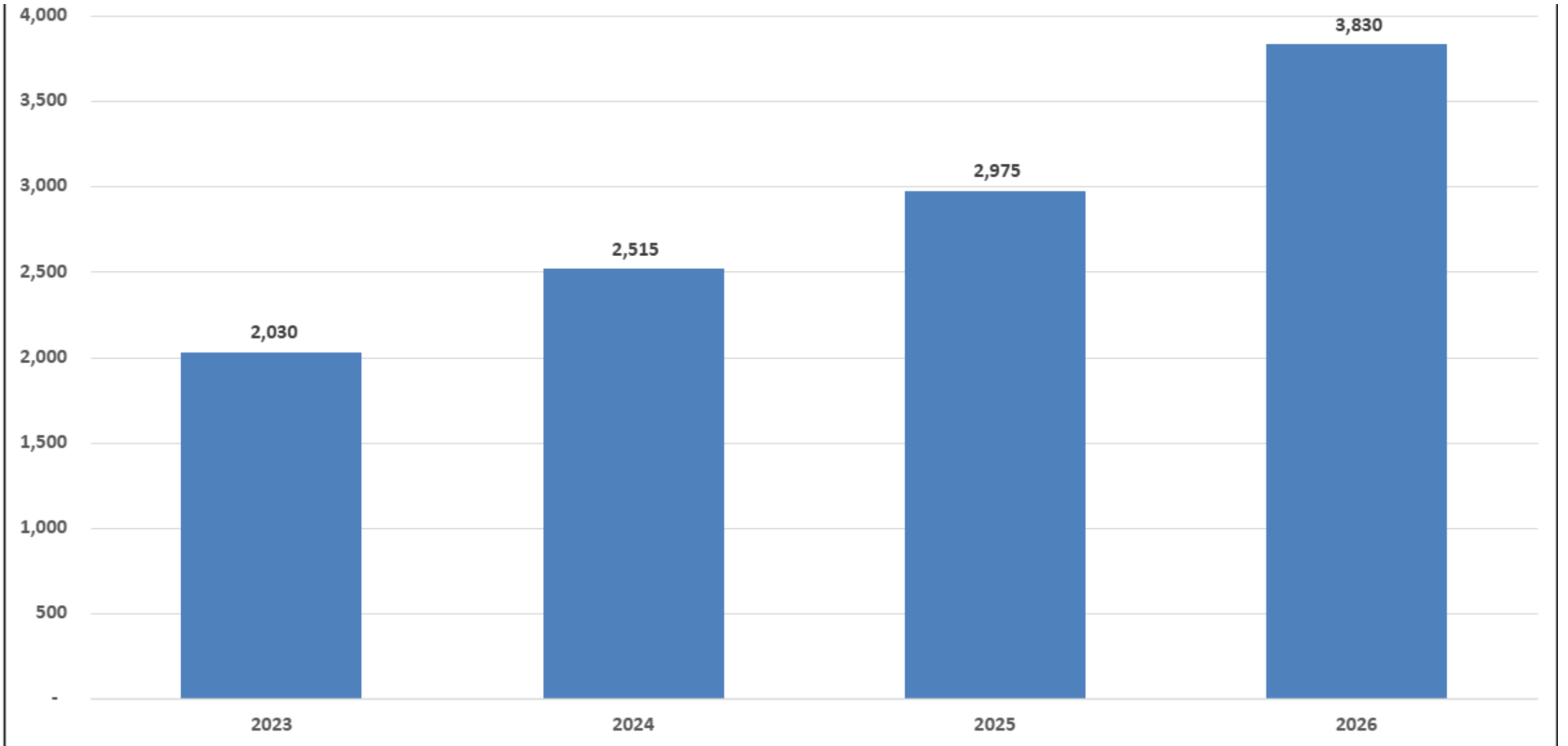


# How do providers enroll in Medicaid?

- Currently, there are **3,830 ABA providers** enrolled in Nevada Medicaid, with over 800 providers enrolling in the past year.
  - Providers choose which MCOs to credential with and can negotiate contracts directly.
  - MCOs are required to meet network adequacy requirements, but can manage their provider networks directly. So, not all MCOs will have the same ABA providers available.
- Curious where to **find an ABA provider**?
  - If you are enrolled in Fee for Service: [search for providers here](#).
  - If you are enrolled in Managed Care: go to their website or call the number on the back of your insurance card. (*Information on this can be found at the end of the presentation.*)
- Curious how to **enroll as a Medicaid ABA provider**? Learn more [here](#)!

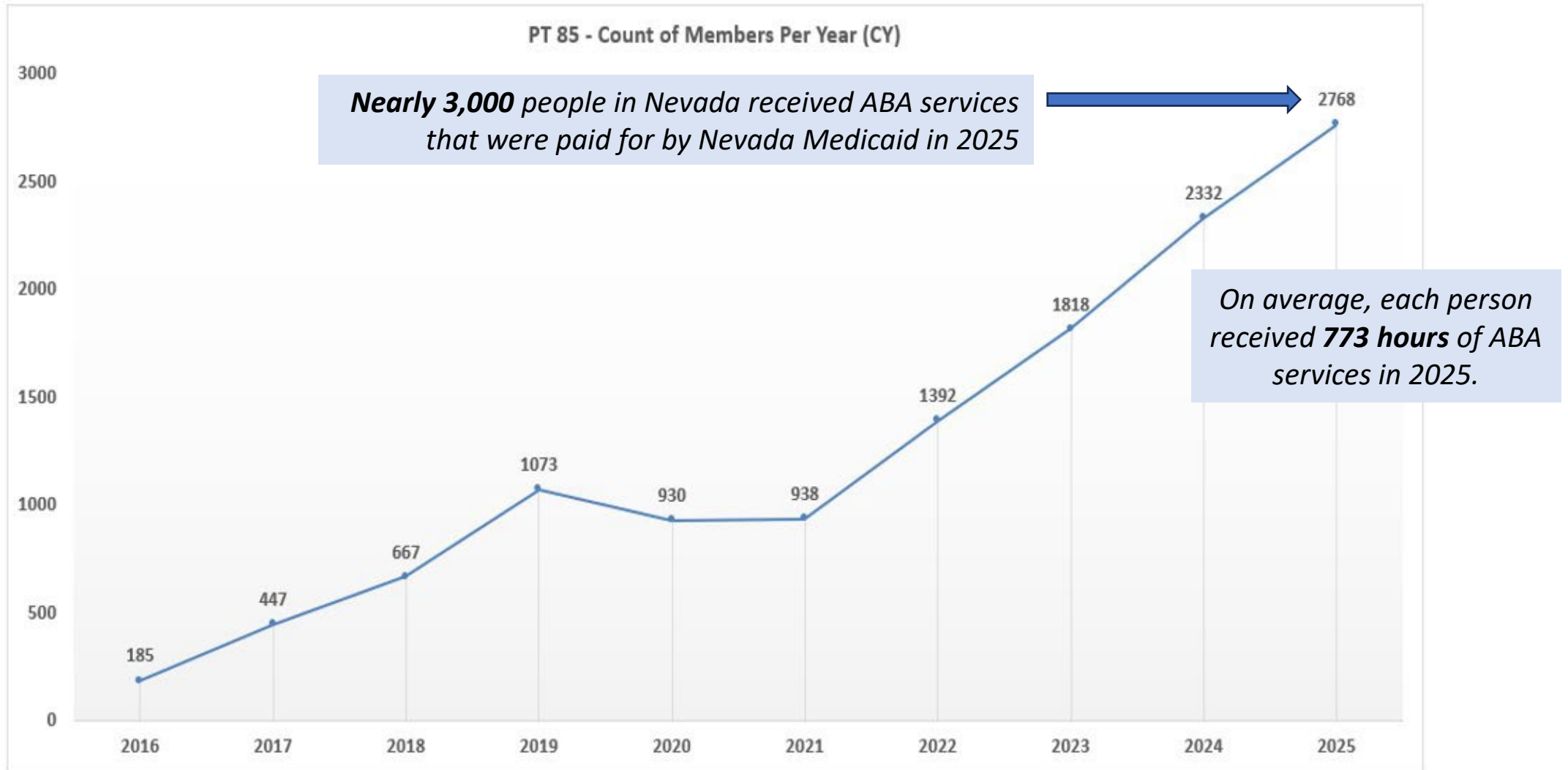


# ABA provider enrollment has nearly doubled since 2023.





# How many Medicaid members are receiving ABA services?





# Medicaid ABA Resources

## **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) webpage is a one-stop shop!**

- Quarterly data reports are located at the bottom of the ABA Webpage
- ABA coverage policy:
  - [Medicaid Services Manual 3700](#)
  - [ABA Fee Schedule](#) (Provider Type 85)
  - [ABA Billing Guide](#)

*If you have questions or disagree with a prior authorization determination, recipients may request a fair hearing or appeal. Please call the number on the back of your insurance card to request this, or use the contact information provided on the next slide.*

**We welcome any questions or feedback sent to [ABAservices@nvha.nv.gov](mailto:ABAservices@nvha.nv.gov).**



# Medicaid MCO Contact Information

## **Anthem**

- Member Services :1-844-396-2329
- Providers Services: 1-844-396-2330
- Home page: <https://mss.anthem.com/nevada-medicaid/home.html>

## **CareSource**

- Member Services: 1-833-230-2058
- Providers Services: 1-833-230-2112
- Home page: [https://www.caresource.com/nv/plans/medicaid/.](https://www.caresource.com/nv/plans/medicaid/)

## **Health Plan of Nevada**

- Member Services:1-800-962-8074
- Provider Services: 1-800-962-8074
- Home page <https://myhpnmedicaid.com/Member>

## **Molina**

- Member Services: 1-833-685-2102
- Providers Services: 1-833-685-2103
- Home page: <https://www.molinahealthcare.com/members/nv/en-us>

## **Silver Summit**

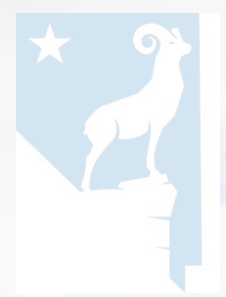
- Member Services: 1-844-366-2880
- Provider Line: 1-844-366-2880
- Home page: <https://www.silversummithealthplan.com>

Questions about Managed Care more generally, or not sure where to start?

Reach out to [ManagedCare@nvha.nv.gov](mailto:ManagedCare@nvha.nv.gov)



# Nevada Health Link Overview



# Nevada Health Link

Nevada's official health insurance marketplace.



**Operated by the Division  
of Consumer Health  
Services**

**A place where eligible  
Nevadans can compare  
health and dental plans,  
receive financial  
assistance, and enroll in  
coverage**

**Created under the  
Affordable Care Act**



# Nevada Health Link



## **Partners with 8 private health insurance carriers:**

- Health Plan of Nevada (HPN)
- Silver Summit (Centene)
- Anthem
- Select Health
- CareSource
- Hometown Health Plan
- Imperial Health Plan
- Moline Healthcare

## **& 4 dental plan carriers:**

- Alpha Dental
- Anthem – Rocky Mountain
- Best Life
- Delta Dental

## **All Qualified Health Plans cover the ten essential health benefits:**

- Ambulatory Services and Care
- Maternity and Newborn Care Services
- Emergency Service
- Hospitalization
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Prescription Drugs
- Lab Services
- Pediatric Services, Including Dental and Vision
- Rehabilitation/Habilitation Services & Devices
- Prevention/ Wellness Services & Chronic Disease Support



# Nevada Health Link



## Free Local Assistance

- Help is free and available statewide
- Meet in person, by phone, or online
- Available in multiple languages
- Assistance with comparing plans and enrolling



Find Local Assistance at No Cost to You



Agents and brokers are licensed by Nevada's Department of Insurance and have completed additional training to become certified with Nevada Health Link. Only an agent or broker can make specific recommendations about which plan you should buy. Note that some agents and brokers may only be able to sell plans from specific health insurance companies.

FIND A NEVADA CERTIFIED  
AGENT OR BROKER NEAR YOU



Nevada Health Link Certified Enrollment Counselors belong to Enrollment Entities, which include hospitals and not-for-profit organizations from around the state that have been trained by Nevada Health Link to help you understand what options are available to you and your family. They cannot make specific recommendations about which plan you should buy.

FIND A NEVADA CERTIFIED  
ENROLLMENT COUNSELOR NEAR YOU

<https://nevadahealthlink.com/find-assistance/>



# Nevada Health Link



## When can you enroll or change plans?

- Open Enrollment:  
November 1 – December 31
- Special Enrollment
  - Available after certain life events such as:
    - Losing coverage
    - Moving
    - Getting married/ divorced
    - Birth or adoption of a child

## Contact Us

- (800) 547-2927
- NevadaHealthLink.com
- CustomerserviceNVHL@exchange.nv.gov

**- APPLY FOR -**  
**SPECIAL ENROLLMENT**

Did you recently lose your healthcare coverage?



# Division of Insurance Overview



# Division of Insurance

## Overview

- To fulfill its mission, the Division seeks to advance a sound regulatory environment that is responsive to the insurance needs of Nevada.
- As the primary regulatory and consumer protection agency of the \$25 billion insurance industry in Nevada, the Division is charged with protecting the consumer rights and the public interest by regulating the insurance industry.

## Key Responsibilities

- Enforce financial and trade practice laws, review insurance rates and forms.
- Respond to and assist consumers with insurance experiences.
- Review insurance policies for compliance with Nevada laws and regulations.
- License insurance companies, agents, brokers, producers, and agents of nontraditional risk transfer products (e.g. bail, motor club, service contracts, funeral contracts)
- Ensures insurance companies are solvent and can pay claims.
- Ensure companies follow through on obligations in insurance policies.
- Review programs operated by self-insured employers for workers compensation.



# Division of Insurance

## Consumer Complaints

- Consumer Complaint Process: [Consumer Portal Login](#)

## When a Division Consumer Services Investigator receives a Consumer Complaint, the Investigator will:

- Log the complaint into the Complaint Database;
- Send an acknowledgement letter to the consumer submitting the Consumer Complaint; and,
- Send a letter and a complete copy of your Consumer Complaint **(IF NOT MARKED AS CONFIDENTIAL)** to the insurance company and/or the agent or broker associated with your Consumer Complaint.

## Please be patient as the Division investigates your complaint.

- If you need assistance, please contact the Las Vegas Office at 702-486-4009, the Carson City Office at 775-687-0700 or e-mail us at [csc@doi.nv.gov](mailto:csc@doi.nv.gov).



# Division of Insurance

## **Applied Behavior Analysis ("ABA") - excerpt below:**

- Coverage provided under this section is subject to:
  - a) A maximum benefit of the actuarial equivalent of \$72,000 per year for applied behavior analysis treatment; and
  - b) Copayment, deductible and coinsurance provisions and any other general exclusion or limitation of a health care plan to the same extent as other medical services or prescription drugs covered by the plan.
- NOTE: The actuarial equivalent tracks to an hourly benefit, e.g., \$72,000 per year = 1500 hours per year and may differ by carrier.



# Division of Insurance

## **SB 257 – 2025 Nevada Legislative Session**

- For the purposes of such coverage, an insurer shall accept as dispositive any diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder that is rendered in accordance with the statewide standard for measuring outcomes and assessing persons with autism spectrum disorders through the age of 21 years prescribed pursuant to NRS 427A.872.
- (NRS 689A.0435, NRS 689B.0335, NRS 689C.1655, NRS 695C.1717, NRS 695G.1645)
- Effective 1/1/26
- Note: Federal Law requires coverage of all ages, so this is what the DOI follows.



# Questions from Registrants

1. What is the easiest way for families to get answers to their questions when it comes to accessing ABA services?
2. Does Medicaid have the oversight to require MCOs to contract with all requesting providers that are credentialed with Medicaid? MCOs shouldn't have the ability to refuse care based on contracted status of Providers to patients that are receiving their benefits through Medicaid.
3. We need change! The point of ABA is to help our kiddos integrate successfully into the public. By helping them become quality members of society, we can't do that unless we are able to work with them in real life situations instead of controlled settings!
4. What should families do when no ABA providers are accepting new Medicaid clients, or when waitlists are extremely long? Are there requirements for providers regarding waitlist management or transparency?
5. If a family experiences barriers such as lack of providers, inconsistent services, or unclear communication, what is the correct process for reporting those issues to Medicaid or the state?



# Questions



# Contact Information

Nevada Medicaid  
<https://dhcfp.nv.gov/>

ABA Services  
[abaservices@nvha.nv.gov](mailto:abaservices@nvha.nv.gov)

Division of Insurance  
<https://doi.nv.gov/>

Nevada Health Link  
<https://nevadahealthlink.com/start-here/manage-your-plan/>

Nevada Governor's Council on  
Developmental Disabilities  
[www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org)



# Acronyms

ABA – Applied Behavioral Analysis

ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder

DOI – Division of Insurance

FAS – Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

FASD - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

FFS – Fee for Service

HPN – Health Plan of Nevada

MCO – Managed Care Organization

NGCDD - Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities

NRS – Nevada Revised Statute

NVHA – Nevada Health Authority

OPR –

Ordering/Prescribing/Referring

POC – Plan of Care

PT – Patient

SSHIX – Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

RBT – Registered Behavioral Technician