

# Janet Hibel Ph.D, ABPP

Diplomate in Counseling Psychology  
American Board of Professional Psychology

8259 N. Military Trail, Suite 9

Palm Beach Gardens,

Florida 33410

(561) 694-6703

fax (561) 694-0391

Janetdoc@aol.com

---

## Medicaid Practice Opportunities for Psychologists in Florida

Florida Psychologists may elect to join Medicaid HMO's recognized by the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide psychotherapy services for Medicaid Beneficiaries. Medicaid HMO's are directed to include access to behavioral health services through Florida State Statute 409.901 which states in part:

"To ensure unimpaired access to behavioral health care services by Medicaid recipients, all contracts issued pursuant to this paragraph shall require 80 percent of the capitation paid to the managed care plan, including health maintenance organizations, to be expended for the provision of behavioral health care services. In the event the managed care plan expends less than 80 percent of the capitation paid pursuant to this paragraph for the provision of behavioral health care services, the difference shall be returned to the agency. The agency may reimburse for substance abuse treatment services on a fee-for-service basis until the agency finds that adequate funds are available for capitates, prepaid arrangements. "

A Psychologist's best bet for joining a Medicaid HMO is to contact the Director of their local AHCA office and determine which Medicaid HMO is most active in your community. Once you have decided which one(s) you are interested in, call their Provider Services line and try to determine how many psychologists or behavioral health care providers are on the panel in your area. If there are only a few providers, you may be able to use this information to negotiate better reimbursement rates. You may also wish to ask which testing services if any, are covered. If you are interested in Amerigroup, you may email Provider Representative Mr. Daly at [kdaly01@amerigroupcorp.com](mailto:kdaly01@amerigroupcorp.com) and he will send you an application packet. He said to expect a 4 month waiting period before you are accepted as a Medicaid provider. Medicaid HMO providers do not need a Medicaid Provider number to provide psychotherapy services to beneficiaries.

Helpful Website Links:

<https://www1.amerigroupcorp.com/providers/ProviderPortalWeb/publicpages/fl/>

Americgroup Provider Website for Florida

<http://www.mymedicaid-florida.com/>

Agency for Health Care Administration/Medicaid Provider Website with Area Offices link

[http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Managed\\_Health\\_Care/MHMO/docs/MCAID/MCAID\\_HMO\\_List.pdf](http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Managed_Health_Care/MHMO/docs/MCAID/MCAID_HMO_List.pdf)

List of Current Florida Medicaid HMOs