



Prior Authorization in Fee-for-Service Medicaid

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| Public Health Essential Services— Assurance #7 | Locate the provider manual for the state Medicaid program. | <i>Link to document:</i> |
| | Locate the member handbook for the state Medicaid program. | <i>Link to document:</i> |
| | <i>Initiating a Prior Authorization Request</i> | |
| | What is the role of the health care provider in the prior authorization process? | |
| | Does the provider or member handbook describe specific services that require prior authorization? | |
| | What are the criteria for authorization? | |
| | Does the Medicaid Fee-For-Service program use a third-party vendor for prior authorization? | |
| | a. If yes, document the name and contact information for the vendor (if available): | |
| | <i>Decisions about Prior Authorization in the Medicaid Fee-For-Service program</i> | |
| | What is the timeframe for decisions about prior authorization? | |
| | Who can the provider or family contact to ask about the status of a decision? | |
| | <i>Tip: In some states, the state Medicaid agency operates a provider portal where they can check on the status of prior authorization requests. Check your state Medicaid agency’s website for information about their provider portal, if applicable.</i> | |
| | How does Medicaid communicate decisions about prior authorization? | |
| | <i>Appealing Decisions in the Medicaid Fee-For-Service program</i> | |
| | If a state Medicaid agency or Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) entity denies a prior authorization request, they must provide notice to a child (or child’s family) informing them of this decision, explaining the rationale for the decision, and describing options for appealing the decision. ⁸⁶ | |
| | What is the timeline for submitting an appeal? | |
| What is the timeframe for decisions about appeals? | | |
| Who can the provider or family contact to ask about the status of an appeal? | | |
| How does Medicaid communicate decisions about appeals in your state? | | |

⁸⁶ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2014). *EPSDT - A Guide for States: Coverage in the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents*. https://www.hhs.gov/guidance/sites/default/files/hhs-guidance-documents/epsdt_coverage_guide_68.pdf