

NEW YORK MEDICAID ABA ACCESS IS AT RISK

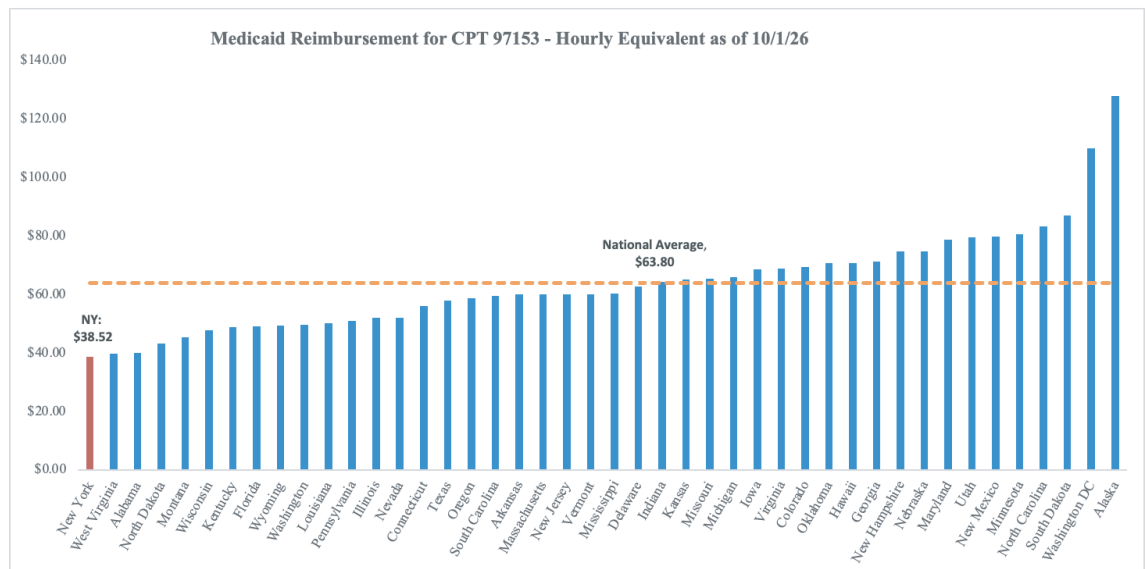
WHAT NEW YORK FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW



**CUMULATIVE RATE REDUCTION SINCE SEPT. 2025,
A DECREASE OF \$38.52 PER HOUR**

Beginning October 1, 2026, New York Medicaid will reimburse \$38.52/hour for CPT 97153, the service used for direct one-to-one ABA treatment delivered by behavior technicians.

This is not a minor adjustment. The costs of recruiting, employing and training staff, providing licensed clinical supervision, employee benefits and payroll taxes, insurance, treatment materials and supplies, compliance, and operating high-quality ABA programs have not fallen by 50 percent.



New York is also one of the highest-cost states in the country, yet its new 97153 reimbursement rate is expected to be the lowest publicly available state Medicaid rate in the country. California, Idaho, Maine, Ohio and Rhode Island have been excluded due to pending fee schedule approval and/or the use of HCPCS codes that do not allow for a direct comparison.

Source: CASP 50-State ABA Medicaid Benefit Comparison and state Medicaid fee schedules.

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR FAMILIES

- **Having Medicaid coverage does not guarantee access to treatment if providers cannot sustainably participate in the Medicaid program.** Lower reimbursement can mean fewer providers accepting Medicaid, longer waitlists, less choice, and greater difficulty maintaining access to medically necessary ABA services.
- **Reducing reimbursement does not reduce children's need for care.** When appropriate treatment becomes harder to access, those needs may instead place greater demands on families, schools, healthcare systems, and other community supports.
- **Coverage on paper is not the same thing as access to care.** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) reminded State Health Officials (e.g., Medicaid Directors) that adequate rates are important for children to access medically necessary services: *"Although adequate payment rates are not, in and of themselves, enough to ensure a sufficient network, without them, any other steps a state might take to improve the provider workforce likely will be less effective."*

WHAT NEW YORK FAMILIES & PROVIDERS CAN DO

Families and providers who are concerned about how Medicaid reimbursement may affect ABA access can learn more, share their experiences, and seek assistance through several channels.

TAKE ACTION THROUGH CASP's VOTER VOICE

Use CASP's VoterVoice advocacy tool to contact Governor Hochul and your State Senator and Assemblymember in one easy step. **Scan the QR code** or [click here](#).



CALL THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE: (518) 474-8390

Ask New York leaders to reverse the October 1 ABA reimbursement cut and explain how reduced provider access could affect your family or clients.

CONTACT THE NY STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – MEDICAID POLICY: (518) 473-2160 | FFSMedicaidPolicy@health.ny.gov

Tell the NY State Department of Health how reduced ABA reimbursement could affect your children's or clients' ability to access care.

LEARN MORE & FIND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to access more CASP advocacy resources.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Families and providers can help policymakers understand what these cuts mean in real life.

Share what access to ABA has meant for your children or clients, how difficult it can be to find services, and what reduced access would mean for families.

Help protect access to ABA for New York Medicaid families.

