



A Seat at the Table

Meaningful Advocacy for Autism Service Providers

Presented by:
Judith Ursitti, CPA
Ashley Williams, PhD, LABA, BCBA-D
Rebecca Womack, MS, BCBA, LBA
Rebecca Giammatti, MS, BCBA, LBA-CT

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Presenters

Judith Ursitti, CPA
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CASP The Council of Autism Service Providers
A SEAT AT THE TABLE
AMPLIFYING AUTISM SERVICE PROVIDER ADVOCACY

An Advocacy Webinar
Presented by Judith Ursitti, Ashley Williams, Rebecca Giammatti, and Rebecca Womack
This webinar offers 1.5 BACB Learning CEUs

December 15, 2022 | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern

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CASP The Council of Autism Service Providers

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ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC POLICY
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ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES
PRACTICE PARAMETERS FOR TELEHEALTH ABA
HEALTH INSURANCE APPEALS GUIDE
ABA CODING COALITION
ABOUT ABA
FOR CONSUMERS

INSTRUCTIONS
LIST OF COURSES

CASP The Council of Autism Service Providers
Online CEU Center

A repository of recorded CASP webinars offering Learning CEUs to BCBA and BCaBA certificants.

To view our library of webinars and other educational material without receiving CEU, please return to the CASP website.

ACE
CASP is a BACB Authorized Continuing Education (ACE) Provider

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CASP The Council of Autism Service Providers

CASP Recorded Webinars

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RESOURCES MEMBERS ONLY EVENTS

CASP CONFERENCE: MAY 2022
CALENDAR
LIVE WEBINARS
RECORDED WEBINARS

Learn how to build a successful supervisory relationship with the most recognized experts in behavior supervision.

ACE
10 BACB Learning CEU Offered
7.0 Supervision + 3.0 Ethics

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CASP
The Council of Autism
Service Providers

Housekeeping

Please submit your questions and monitor for responses in the **Q&A box**

Please limit use of the **chat box** for comments

There are 1.5 Learning CEUs for this webinar

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CASP
The Council of Autism
Service Providers

Agenda

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graph TD; A[CASP Advocacy on the Federal and State Levels] --> B[TRICARE]; B --> C[Medicaid Rate Advocacy]; C --> D[MUEs]
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CASP Advocacy on the Federal and State Levels

TRICARE

Medicaid Rate Advocacy

MUEs


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A SEAT AT THE TABLE

AMPLIFYING AUTISM SERVICE PROVIDER
ADVOCACY

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ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

- HEALTH INSURANCE
- SPECIAL EDUCATION
- HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES
- TRICARE

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Home and Community Based Services

- CASP provided [written comment](#) in Massachusetts on the regulations implementing self-directed home-and-community-based services via The Real Lives Bill.
- CASP provided public comment to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission regarding proposed rules that would unfairly limit Home and Community-Based Services options for Texans with autism and other disabilities. Texas HHSC has now said that the proposed rules will be revised.

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Special Education (Federal)

- On July 19, 2022, Miguel A. Cardona, Ed.D., U.S. Secretary of Education, published a letter that states:

“The Department has taken steps to address the needs of schools by providing substantial resources to support the challenging work of setting all students up for success and meeting their academic, behavioral, and mental health needs. This letter shares information about resources from the Department that may be useful in supporting the needs of students with disabilities in particular, including tools for schools to assist students in addressing any disability-based behaviors that could otherwise interfere with their or other students’ learning, or that could lead to student discipline or impact safety.”
- Read the new guidance [here](#).

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Special Education

- CASP is coordinating with Virginia stakeholders to ensure rate-setting language is removed related to service provision of private day schools.
- CASP is also coordinating with New York CASP members regarding the rate disparity experienced by Chapter 853 schools and preschools.
- The Florida governor approved [HB 255](#), revising the definition of “private instructional personnel” to include certain registered behavior technicians.
- Colorado’s [HB 1260](#) has been signed by the governor. It requires each administrative unit to adopt a policy addressing how a student who has a prescription from a qualified healthcare provider for medically necessary treatment receives such treatment in the school setting as required by federal and state laws.

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Licensure

- CASP provided additional [public comment](#) to the North Carolina Licensure Board regarding proposed regulations related to the licensure of BCBAs.
- CASP also provided [public comment](#) in Nebraska before the Applied Behavioral Analyst Technical Review Committee at their August 12, 2022, public hearing.
- Wyoming, Georgia, and Illinois each passed licensure bills during their legislative sessions. CASP continues to provide support during the implementation process.

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Health Insurance/Medicaid

- CASP provided public comment on California's [SB562](#), The bill passed the legislature and was subsequently vetoed by the governor.
- CASP submitted a [letter](#) to Indiana's state Medicaid leadership regarding the problematic Medicaid rate survey.
- CASP provided oral public comment in California's pre-rulemaking hearing related to SB 855. CASP's Practice Guidelines for Applied Behavior Analysis are referenced in the draft regulations.
- In Virginia, the Bureau of Insurance issued a long-awaited [all-plan letter](#) clarifying that mental health parity protections apply to autism insurance coverage. This invalidates age and dollar caps and clarifies required coverage in marketplace plans as an essential health benefit.

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Health Insurance/Medicaid

- [HF 2167](#), legislation to clarify the definition of autism to ensure critical mental health parity protections, has been signed by the governor in **Iowa**. The law goes into effect on January 1, 2023.
- In **Oklahoma**, [SB 1240](#) has been approved by the governor, invalidating age and dollar caps and confirming coverage in marketplace plans. CASP provided public comment on proposed changes in Soonercare plans.
- Additionally, [reimbursement rates](#) for existing **MassHealth** coverage of applied behavior analysis therapy for children under the age of 21 have been published. The increase is an advocacy victory.

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Health Insurance/Medicaid


- In **Hawaii**, a [resolution](#) requesting the Department of Health and Department of Human Services to jointly develop and adopt all rules, policies, and plan amendments necessary for the State Medicaid program to cover medically-needed services, including Applied Behavior Analysis services, for individuals aged twenty-one and older with neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism spectrum disorder has been signed by the governor.
- CASP provided public comment on Proposed Rule: 59G-4.125/Behavior Analysis Services/Florida Medicaid Behavior Analysis Coverage Policy Draft Rule. Read our public comment [here](#).

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And last, but not least

- In **New York**, advocacy continues to ensure coverage of applied behavior analysis for Medicaid-enrolled children as required under EPSDT.
- **New York is the only state in the nation that has not yet implemented this coverage.**


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Thank you for doing what you can!




Contribute to lobbyist funding




Participate in state-specific advocacy meetings




Grassroots/grasstops development and organization



Join me on a Hill visit



Contribute to our story repository



jursitti@casproviders.org

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Recent State Events





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REGULAR STATE MEETINGS



CASP State Advocacy Meetings


(ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN)

<p>Arkansas 3rd Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>California 3rd Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Connecticut 2nd Friday of every 3rd month at 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Florida 4th Tuesday of the month at 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Georgia 1st Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Illinois 1st Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Indiana 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Massachusetts 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>New Hampshire 4th Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>New York 2nd Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>North Carolina 1st Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Texas 4th Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Virginia 4th Thursday of every month at 3:30 p.m.</p>
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Contact Judith Ursitti at jursitti@casproviders.org for additional information

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STAY IN TOUCH



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- <https://casproviders.org/advocacy-and-public-policy/>

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