

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON

REIMBURSEMENT FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE AND TRIBAL HEALTH FACILITIES

Payment for Services

Services provided by facilities of the Indian Health Service (IHS) which includes, at the option of the tribe, facilities operated by a tribe or tribal organization, and funded by Title I or III of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638), are paid at the rates negotiated between the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) and the IHS and which are published in the Federal Register or Federal Register Notices.

The outpatient per visit rate is also known as the, IHS encounter rate. The definition of an encounter is, "A face-to-face contact between a health care professional and a Medicaid beneficiary, for the provision of Title XIX defined services through an IHS or Tribal 638 facility within a 24-hour period ending at midnight, as documented in the patient's record."

The services of the following providers are included in the encounter rate:

Physicians
Physician Assistants
Nurse Midwives
Advanced Nurse Practitioners
Speech-Language Pathologists
Audiologists
Physical Therapists
Occupational Therapists
Podiatrists
Optometrists
Dentists
Chemical Dependency Counselors
Psychiatrists
Psychologists
Mental Health Professionals

Included in the outpatient per visit rate are laboratory and x-ray services provided on-site and medical supplies incidental to the services provided to the patient. Pharmaceuticals/drugs are outside the encounter rate and are reimbursed under the fee-for-service system at the applicable fee-for-service rate.

[Back to TOC](#)