
§ 31-2-15. Streamlining and expediting credentialing and billing processes: Department of Community Health

(a) As used in this Code section, the term "state medical plan" means the state health benefit plan under Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45, the medical assistance program under Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49, the PeachCare for Kids Program under Article 13 of Chapter 5 of Title 49, and any other health benefit plan or policy administered by or on behalf of the state.

(b) The department shall take all reasonable steps to streamline and expedite the credentialing and billing processes for state medical plans, including but not limited to examining the potential for a uniform billing platform or portal; examining the potential for the standardization of billing codes among providers; posting billing criteria and codes on the department's website; enabling a dual track process for credentialing and contract negotiation for new providers; allowing billing for telehealth delivered care and allowing payment for both the on-site provider and off-site provider; and maximizing billing for multiple specialists and multiple encounters with one provider at a single visit in safety net settings, critical access settings, federally qualified health centers, and general practitioner settings.

(c) This Code section shall not be construed to require the department to act in violation of any federal law, rule, or regulation.