

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID**

DATE: August 12, 2024

TIME: 10:30am

Teleconference Dial-in Phone Number: 614-721-2972

Teleconference Pin: 444585481#

Link to Microsoft Teams Meeting for Hearing: [Join the meeting now](#)

In-Person Location: Lazarus Building 50 West Town Street, Columbus, Ohio Room A501

Pursuant to Chapter 119. and section 5164.02 of the Revised Code, the Director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) gives notice of ODM's intent to consider the adoption of the rule identified below and of a public hearing thereon.

New rule 5160-8-43, "Doula Services," sets forth coverage and payment policies for services provided by a doula. This rule is being proposed for adoption in accordance with House Bill 101.

Doula services have been shown to improve birth outcomes, maternal experiences, and reduce racial disparities in maternal and infant outcomes. Doulas provide advocacy, physical, educational, and emotional support during pregnancy and childbirth. Doula services provided by community-based doulas have been shown to be effective interventions in reducing health equity gaps and improving birth outcomes.

Payment amounts will be reflected in rule 5160-1-60, "Medicaid Payment." ODM will be adopting HCPCS codes T1032 and T1033 to indicate that a doula rendered the service.

ODM will hold the public hearing for this rule package via teleconference and in-person. ODM will not require masks for individuals attending in person. However, visitors are welcome to wear masks if that is their preference. The date and time for the public hearing are listed at the top of this Notice as well as the phone number, PIN (access code), and link for teleconference attendance, and location for in-person attendance.

All interested parties are invited to participate in the public hearing. Both oral and written testimony will be accepted for this hearing and will be given the same consideration. Persons who want to give oral testimony are asked to send a message by e-mail to Rules@medicaid.ohio.gov no later than one hour before the hearing to be added to the witness list. Those attending in person can be added to the witness list at the hearing. There will be a final call at the end of the hearing for persons who wish to offer oral testimony but are not yet on the witness list.

Written comments submitted in-person, by e-mail, postal mail, or fax that are received or postmarked no later than the day of the hearing will be accepted as testimony and will become part of the hearing record. All testimony will become public record; therefore, ODM asks that protected health information (PHI) be excluded unless the information belongs to the person

submitting the testimony to a person for which the submitter is a legal guardian. Written testimony sent by e-mail is highly recommended. All persons who submit testimony by e-mail will be sent a confirmation of receipt.

A copy of the proposed rule is available, without charge, to any person at the address listed below. The rule is also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. Requests for a copy of the proposed rule or comments on the rule should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Office of Legal Counsel, 50 W. Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 995-1301, or by e-mail at Rules@Medicaid.Ohio.gov.

ODM is committed to providing access and inclusion and reasonable accommodation in its services, activities, programs, and employment opportunities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and other applicable laws. To request an interpreter, written information in a language other than English or in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats), or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact ODM's Civil Rights/ADA Coordinator at 614-995-9981/TTY 711, Fax 1-614-644-1434, or Email: ODM_EEO_EmployeeRelations@medicaid.ohio.gov. Requests should be made at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled hearing. If you believe ODM has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way, you can file a grievance with ODM's Civil Rights Coordinator and/or file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights. Further information on these processes and ODM's compliance with civil rights and other applicable laws can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).