



TRICARE West Region Autism Care Demonstration

Quick Reference Guide For ABA Providers

Key Points

- TRICARE's Autism Care Demonstration (ACD) authorizes reimbursement for applied behavior analysis services to TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.
- All ABA providers must complete an ACD Participation Agreement and certification process for the ACD program to treat TRICARE beneficiaries.
- ACD providers are required to enroll in Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) to be eligible for claims payments.
- Providers are encouraged to submit requests for authorization using the online referral management system on Availity.

This quick reference guide outlines the guidelines for providing care to TRICARE beneficiaries under the Autism Care Demonstration (ACD). It aims to help Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) providers deliver ABA services in compliance with the policy.

The ACD requires all ABA provider to sign a participation agreement and to become TRICARE certified.

Furthermore:

- If a provider wants to be a TRICARE Network provider, they also must be credentialed.
- Network providers will appear on the Network directory; Non-network providers will appear on the non-network directory.
- After TRICARE certification is complete, those who wish to become credentialed will be temporarily placed on the non-network list so that you are still searchable.



The chart below highlights ACD provider eligibility.

Provider Contracting Status	TRICARE Certified + Signed Participation Agreement	TRICARE Certified + Signed Participation Agreement + Signed Network Agreement	TRICARE Certified + Signed Participation Agreement + Signed Network Agreement + TriWest Credentialed
ACD Provider Status	Non-Network, Participating Provider	Non-Network, Participating Provider	In Network, Participating Provider
Loaded in Non-Network Directory (search for Autism)	✓	✓	⊘
Loaded in ACD & T5 Directory "Find Autism Care Demonstration"	⊘	⊘	✓
Eligible to See Patients	✓	✓	✓
Claims Paid (EFT Enrollment Required)	✓	✓	✓

Certification Reminders

Below are a few reminders about providing ABA services under the ACD. To render services under the ACD and receive claims payments from TriWest, ABA providers must:

- To remain compliant with Chapter 18, Section 3 of the TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM) requirements, all ACD providers shall complete the ACD Provider Education annually and retain evidence of attendance/completion of the latest published version. If the ABA provider fails to complete the ACD Provider Education by the final day of the calendar year, a 10% claims penalty for all ABA rendered services during the non-compliant period will be imposed. **Note:** The ACD Provider Education is offered as an on-demand, web-based module that can be accessed at any time for your convenience. To access the training:
 - Log in to [Availity.com](https://www.availity.com).
 - For questions or concerns accessing Availity, please call 800-282-4548 available Monday – Friday, 8am – 8pm EST.
 - For questions or concerns about accessing specific trainings within Availity, please contact training@triwest.com.
 - Go to the TRICARE West Payer Space.
 - Click on the Access TriWest Learning Center tile.
 - Search “Annual Provider Training.”
 - You can either enroll for a later training date or begin the training by clicking “Start Now.”
 - Meet all TRICARE ABA provider requirements and be certified.

Note: The certification process may take up to 10 business days for behavior technicians and up to 15 business days for all other providers.



Submitting Authorization Requests

Note: For more details visit, [TRICARE Operations Manual Chapter 18, Section 3](#).

- Treatment authorization requests should be made using the online referral management system on [Availity](#). Treatment plans, outcome measures and other appropriate documentation can be attached to the request. Search for care profiles using “ABA” to narrow the selection. [Explore the Availity Learning Center](#) for on-demand training for the TRICARE West Region.
- ABA providers must adhere to the following TRICARE requirements:
 - If ongoing services are clinically indicated, prior to the end of the six-month treatment authorization period, as early as 60 calendar days in advance, and no later than 30 calendar days in advance, a request for continued care authorization should be requested by the ABA provider.
 - There is no expedited review process, therefore, late submissions will not be reviewed and may cause a gap in authorization.
- Outcome measures must be completed.
- Termination of ABA services under any circumstance must not occur abruptly by the authorized ABA supervisor. All termination plans must be submitted at least 45 calendar days prior to the termination of services.
- The quickest and most convenient option to submit all Autism Care Demonstration requests and documents is via the [online referral management system on Availity](#). You can also send documents to the dedicated ACD fax at 877-875-9037.
 - This could include any mid-cycle outcome measures or documents requested for Quality Monitoring as required by TRICARE.

Please contact Autism Care Demonstration Customer Service at 833-818-2525 with additional questions.