

17. Birthing Center Facility Services.

Medicaid providers of birthing center services are reimbursed based on fee schedules as follows:

- (a) Subject to the specifications, conditions, requirements and limitations established HHSC; payment for covered birthing center services provided by a participating, licensed birthing center is limited to the lesser of the customary charge or the allowable rates per established fee schedule by HHSC.
- (b) The fee schedule established by HHSC is based upon: (1) survey of home birthing centers' costs to provide the services; (2) review of Medicaid fees paid by other states; (3) Medicaid fees for similar services; (4) Medicare fees; and/or (5) some combination or percentage of the above.
- (c) The birth attendant must be a physician or certified nurse midwife (CNM). The physician or CNM who was the birth attendant must be identified on the birthing center's claim. Prenatal, labor, delivery and postpartum services performed or provided by physicians or CNMs are not considered birthing center facility services.
- (d) The birthing center must bill for the services that it provides. Unless approved by the state agency or its designee, the birthing center may not bill for services provided by another type of provider. If the birthing center bills a single or itemized combined rate, charge, or amount for covered services for two or more providers, payment is the lesser of the single or itemized combined rate, charge or the amount that would have been paid had each performing provider billed separately.
- (e) All fee schedules are available through the agency's website as outlined on Attachment 4.19-B, Page 1.
- (f) The reimbursement rate for services effective September 1, 2011, will be equal to the reimbursement rate on August 31, 2010, less five percent.
- (g) The agency's fee schedule was revised with new fees for providers of birthing center services effective for services on or after September 1, 2011. The fee schedule was posted on September 9, 2011.

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