



**El Paso Health**  
HEALTH PLANS FOR EL PASOANS. BY EL PASOANS.

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## **New Medicaid Benefit for Applied Behavior Analysis Services**

Starting February 1, 2022, the Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) is adding a new STAR Medicaid benefit for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services for members 20 years of age or younger with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This new benefit provides for coordination of the service array in interdisciplinary team meetings.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a condition characterized by restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities and deficits in social communication and social interaction, with onset of symptoms occurring in early childhood.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is the scientific study of the principles of learning and behavior, specifically about how behavior affects, and is affected by, past and current environmental events in conjunction with biological variables.

These services might require prior authorization before services are rendered.

ABA services can be provided by:

- Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs)
- Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts (LaBas)\*
- Behavior Technicians (BTs)\*

\*Neither LaBas nor BTs may enroll with Medicaid as providers of ABA services, but they may act as rendering providers under the supervising LBA.

To become a provider for ABA services, please contact our Contracting Department at 915-532-3778 or via email at [Contracting\\_Dept@elpasohealth.com](mailto:Contracting_Dept@elpasohealth.com)

