

Submitting an Authorization in Availity

Behavioral Health Inpatient Job Aid

Please refer to the prior authorization list (PAL) Tool at pal.sentarahealthplans.com to view authorization requirements for in-network providers.

- Click on Authorizations & Referrals tile
- Click on Authorization Request
- Organization: Sentara Health Administration
- Templates: No template selected
- Payer: Sentara Behavioral Health
- Request Type: Inpatient Authorization
- Service Type: A4 – Psychiatric = Emergent/ Concurrent admission; AI - Substance Abuse (government use only); RTC – Residential Psychiatric Treatment (commercial use only) *See crosswalk for examples for each service type
- Patient Information: Subscriber Member ID, Patient Date of Birth, Patient Last Name, Patient First name are required fields identified by the red *
- Requesting Provider is MD or practitioner: Provider Type = Provider; Enter NPI of admitting provider; Click blue Search *Please note: If provider not found, use “Show Manual Entry” and enter information in all required fields
- Choose affiliation for provider (if more than one) based on TIN for correct address or location; Click Select
- Enter fax number for requesting provider
- Complete Contact Information: Name, Phone, Fax
- Click blue Continue
- You will see a spinning blue circle that says “Verifying Eligibility”
- Add Service Information: Place of Service, From Date, Quantity Type, Quantity, and Admission Type are required fields identified by the red * Please note: Enter a quantity of 7
- For expedited Review: Click box to certify request is urgent and meets definition of an expedited review *See FAQ document for DMAS BH IP code list
- Add Diagnosis
- Rendering Providers & Facilities is facility: Provider Type = Facility; Enter NPI of facility (place where member is to be admitted for preservice requests or place where member is currently admitted for concurrent requests); Click blue Search *Please note: If provider not found, use “Show Manual Entry” and enter information in all required fields. If you used “Show Manual Entry” for both requesting and treating providers entries, you need to abort your request and fax request to the Health Plan. If you try to submit the AUTH, you will get an error.
- For commercial, choose “IP” provider listed (if more than one) based on TIN for correct address or location; Click Select
- Click Continue
- Will see a blue spinning circle that states “Loading Next Step”

Submitting an Authorization in Availity

Behavioral Health Inpatient Job Aid

- External SSO to MCG Health: Click blue continue button to bypass MCG criteria
- Will see a blue spinning circle that states “Completing step”
- Upload Clinical Documents: Must add at least one attachment *Sentara – Please add face sheet; all other providers please attach clinical information required to complete the medical necessity review
- Submit
- Will see a spinning blue circle that states “Submitting Prior Auth”
- Result Details will display with falling confetti:
Result will show Status, Status Message, Reference Number, Transaction ID

*Authorization Dashboard will show all items user has entered and status