

Department of Human Services Resumes County Jail Inmate Medical Claims Payment Processing

The North Dakota Department of Human Services resumed generating invoices for claims paid to medical providers for services provided to county jail inmates in Oct. 2018. The department suspended the county jail invoicing process while transitioning to a new Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).

Background

- During the 2011 North Dakota Legislative Session, lawmakers approved Senate Bill 2024 allowing medical providers who provide services to county jail inmates to submit claims directly to the department for processing. (Reference NDCC 50-24.1-34).
- The department began receiving claims on Oct. 1, 2012.
- By allowing medical providers to submit claims directly to the department, county jails benefit by using the Medicaid fee schedule for pricing the claims and reduced administrative work for county jail staff.
- County jail participation is voluntary.

Processing Fee

- State law allows the department to assess a processing fee to county jails for each claim submission. The county jail is also responsible for the amount paid to a medical provider.
- The processing fee is updated at the start of each state fiscal year (SFY) based on the annual claims processing operation costs divided by total claims volume.
- The processing fee for SFY 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) was \$2 per claim. The processing fee for SFY 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) increased to \$4.94 per claim.

New Invoice Process

- The invoicing process that resumed in Oct. 2018 includes claims paid or processed on or after July 1, 2017.

Medical Claim Cost

- The county jail is responsible for the amount paid by the department for the medical claim.