

## Medicaid MNT Coverage Information by State:

# NEW MEXICO

\*Disclaimer: Information contained in this document was originally gathered in Spring 2023 and made available to provide basic information to assist RDNs in identifying Medicaid coverage in a given state. A review and update were conducted in February 2025. The information contained in this document is not a guarantee by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics as to the current accuracy of the information contained herein. For example, coverage information, reimbursement rates, and links may not be accurate given ongoing updates to state programs.

## Traditional Fee for Service Medicaid

Medicaid is a crucial government program in the United States, providing essential healthcare coverage for low-income individuals and families. Traditional Medicaid offers a comprehensive array of medical services, including doctor visits, hospital stays, prescription drugs, and more, to eligible individuals, such as children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities. While all state Medicaid programs must cover mandatory benefits, states have the autonomy to determine additional medical services, tailoring healthcare to their specific populations. This flexibility enables states to address unique healthcare needs. Eligibility rules differ by state.

### *Medicaid Expansion*

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) called for states to expand Medicaid coverage to additional low-income adults (up to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level) who previously were ineligible. States that have expanded Medicaid receive additional funding from the government to support their Medicaid programs. By allowing more lower incomes individuals into the Medicaid program, states are able to further support enhanced healthcare access, promote preventive care, and alleviate the burden of uncompensated care on hospitals and taxpayers.

## Medicaid Managed Care

The majority of Medicaid beneficiaries nationwide receive Medicaid program health care services through Medicaid Managed Care Programs. A state will contract with various types of Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to deliver services to their beneficiaries. By utilizing an MCO, the state is able to provide additional flexibility in the delivery of services that is not allowable under the traditional Fee for Service Medicaid model. These models often provide a more integrated and person-centered approach to service delivery as well as cost savings. The State Medicaid program will either directly contract with an MCO or will utilize an administrator service to manage MCO contracts.

MCOs providing benefits under the state Medicaid Plan, at a minimum, must provide the same level of service offered via the state's traditional fee-for-service Medicaid plan. MNT may be a covered service and RDNs may be recognized providers. However, each RDN must contact each plan individually to apply to become a provider and must negotiate their individual provider contract terms to include desired MNT coverage details. Because covered benefits periodically change, coverage needs to be verified before providing services.

## Medicaid Waivers

Medicaid State Waivers, including Section 1115 demonstrations (which encompass In Lieu of Services (ILOS)) and Section 1915 waivers (covering Home and Community-Based Services or HCBS), allow states to innovate in healthcare delivery and financing within Medicaid and CHIP. Section 1115 waivers test new care models to improve outcomes, while Section 1915 waivers offer cost-effective alternatives to standard services, expanding care options for beneficiaries. These waivers have the potential to significantly impact nutrition care by integrating services like Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) and food assistance programs, thereby improving access for vulnerable populations and enhancing health outcomes through more comprehensive, patient-centered care.

## TABLE

### Instructions for Understanding the Table:

- **Purpose:** The table below presents findings from the Academy’s Medicaid Mapping Project, summarizing the status of nutrition services provision in state Medicaid programs.
- **Data Collection:** The information reflects a review of state-level policies and regulations as of June 2023. A review and update were conducted in February 2025.
- **Interpreting the Cells:**
  - **Filled Cells:** These contain specific information or language related to the provision of nutrition services in Medicaid programs as found in state documents.
  - **Blank Cells:** If a cell is blank, it means that the reviewed documents did not include relevant language. Interpret these blank cells with caution, as they may indicate either an absence of related policies or insufficient documentation.
- **Note:** This table serves as a snapshot of the available data at the time of review and may not capture subsequent changes or updates.

## Traditional Fee-For-Service Medicaid

State: NM	Dietitian Provider Enrollment	Dietitian provides independent services or incident to	Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)	Nutrition Counseling, Dietitian visit (S9470)	Prior Authorization required to determine Medical Necessity	Referral, prescription, order (by physician, NP, or other) required
Traditional FFS	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incident to <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 97802 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 97803 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 97804	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown
Adults	No	Incident-to	Yes	No	Yes	
Children	No	Incident-to	Yes	No	Yes	
Other						

### NOTES:

Medicaid covers only those **nutritional services** as adjunct services furnished by physicians, licensed nutritionists or **licensed dietitians**.

**Nutrition services** can be billed as a separate charge only when services are furnished by licensed nutritionists or **licensed dietitians** who are employed by eligible providers. Reimbursement is made to eligible providers and not directly to the nutritionists or dietitians.

Medicaid does not cover the following specific nutritional services as adjunct services: A. services not considered medically necessary for the condition of the recipient as determined by the NM Medical Assistance Division or its designee; B. dietary counseling for the sole purpose of weight loss; C. weight control and weight management programs; and D. commercial dietary supplements or replacement products marketed for the primary purpose of weight loss and weight management.

**Dietary counseling** is covered only for an eligible recipient less than 21 years of age, as part of the early and periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment (EPSDT) program and for pregnant women.

## Traditional Fee-For-Service Medicaid

State: NM	Dietitian Provider Enrollment	Dietitian provides independent services or incident to	Medical Nutrition Therapy	Nutrition Counseling, Dietitian visit (S9470)	Prior Authorization required to determine Medical Necessity	Referral, prescription, order (by physician, NP, or other) required
Managed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Incident to <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> 97802 <input type="checkbox"/> 97803 <input type="checkbox"/> 97804	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Adults				Yes		
Children				Yes		
Other				Covered as a self-directed community benefit (SDCB) defined as certain HCBS that are available to members who meet nursing facility level of care		

### NOTES:

Under Home and Community Based Services, Agency-Based Community Benefits (ABCB) include nutritional counseling services, which must be provided by an active, Medicaid approved provider type 363 Nutritional Counseling provider (per CMS Medicare taxonomy, a PA or APN). The agency must have on staff or employ a full-time licensed dietitian or a licensed nutritionist who maintains (no gaps in licensure) a full permanent license through the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department; Nutrition and Dietetics Practice Act, NMSA 1978, Section 61-7A *et seq.*

## ***More Medicaid Information for Providers***

### ***General***

[NM Link to Service Manuals](#)

[NM Adjunct Services Nutrition Services](#)

[NM Medicaid Managed Care Policy Manual](#)

### ***Telehealth***

<https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/telehealth-for-dietetics-practitioners>

### ***Medicaid Managed Care Program Name(s) and Website***

Turquoise Care began on July 1, 2024 and replaced the program previously known as New Mexico Centennial Care 2.0

Website: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/turquoise-care/>

### ***Current Medicaid Waivers***

**Search State Waivers List at:** [Medicaid.gov](https://www.medicaid.gov)

### ***State Licensure of Dietitians***

[NM Statutes](#)