



Dear Primary Care Physician,

Medicaid has issued an official statement regarding PASSE beneficiaries and transitioning from a PCPs office. The official statement is below.

PASSE members are Medicaid clients who receive managed health care via the PASSEs, not under the traditional Medicaid fee for service program.

PCP's can enroll in PASSE networks and continue to serve their Medicaid clients who are PASSE members. PCP's who choose not to contract with a PASSE can submit claims to their patients' PASSEs and receive payment at the rates set under the Arkansas Medical Society v. Reynolds Medicaid payment consent decree. As a result, PCPs continue to get the current Medicaid rate if out of network and may be able to negotiate a higher rate if in network.

Medicaid providers may decline to serve Medicaid clients, or may decline to serve additional Medicaid clients, but may not discriminate among Medicaid clients by continuing to serve non-PASSE Medicaid beneficiaries as usual but withholding services to PASSE members unless the member agrees to be a private pay patient. In such circumstances, members are not freely choosing to be private pay patients, but rather, confront the dilemma of paying out-of-pocket or not be seen by their PCP. The Medicaid provider enrollment agreement permits charging patients only if the patient freely agrees to be seen as a private pay patient. Charging the patient under threat of non-treatment or other influence violates that agreement.

Medicaid enrolled providers may not charge a Medicaid beneficiary who is a PASSE member for a covered service simply because the provider has declined to join a PASSE network.

PCPs who do not want to bill a PASSE for their patients' Medicaid covered services must provide a written 30-day notice to the patients and help patients transition to a new PCP.

Please remember that you have the ability to run eligibility in the Medicaid provider portal to determine whether or not a Medicaid recipient has been assigned to one of the Provider-led AR Shared Savings Entities (PASSE). Please refer to the [Provider Portal Guide for Providers](#) for additional information and how to confirm eligibility.

PASSE entities will pay the PCPs the Medicaid rate regardless of the PCP enrollment in the PASSE.

Providers may reach out to the PASSE entities for additional direction on billing services for these beneficiaries.

Arkansas Total Care 1-866-282-6280

Empower Healthcare Solutions 1-855-429-1028

Summit Community Care 1-844-462-0022

If you are having issues with the PASSE, providers may call the DHS help line for additional assistance (1-888-889-6451).

Should your beneficiaries have questions regarding their PASSE coverage, please review the [beneficiary flier](#) for additional details.

If you have any questions, please contact your [AFMC Provider Relations specialist](#).

Sincerely,

AFMC Provider Relations



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