

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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FREE STANDING BIRTH CENTER

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FREE STANDING BIRTH CENTER

Effective for dates of service on or after December 22, 2019, the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) will enroll free standing birth centers as MO HealthNet providers. A free standing birth center is defined as a facility, not licensed as part of the hospital, which provides maternity care away from the mother's usual residence and where low risk births are planned following a normal uncomplicated pregnancy.

COVERED SERVICES

The free standing birth center facility payment includes all room charges for the mother and baby, equipment and supplies. Providers will use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 59409 with modifier SU to bill for facility services provided in a birthing center. If labor was begun in a birthing center, but the woman had to be transferred to a hospital for the birth, the birthing center may bill CPT code S4005. Birthing center facility services are limited to one per participant per pregnancy

The physician or certified nurse midwife must submit separate claims for their professional services. Services provided before and after the delivery, such as antepartum and postpartum care, are included in the professional payment for the physician or certified nurse midwife.

Covered procedure codes are listed in the table below.

Procedure Code	Description	Reimbursement
59409 SU	Vaginal delivery only (with or without episiotomy and/or forceps)	\$800.00
S4005	Interim labor facility global (labor occurring but not resulting in delivery)	\$400.00

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT

The free standing birth center must be licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and shall be otherwise subject to the limitations of amount, duration and scope as defined in state rule 19 CSR 30-30.080-30.110. Providers must have an approved enrollment agreement with the MHD. MO HealthNet enrollment packets, and additional enrollment information, are available at: <https://mmac.mo.gov/providers/provider-enrollment/new-providers/provider-enrollment-forms/>.

APPLICABILITY

Managed Care enrolled providers should contact their Managed Care Organizations for questions regarding free standing birth center billing.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) website at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD website at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the MO HealthNet ID card.

Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896