

UPDATE: CPT 97153 Rate Changes – CPT Code 97153 Billing and Reimbursement Clarification

What's Changed?

Effective **July 1, 2026**, Wyoming Medicaid implemented updates to reimbursement and billing expectations for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services.

Key Updates

- Reimbursement rates have increased for both Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) and Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs).
- BCBAs should bill **CPT code 97153** only when providing routine direct adaptive behavior treatment **without treatment protocol modification**.
- **CPT code 97155** should only be billed when a qualified healthcare professional is actively modifying or adapting a treatment protocol during a face-to-face session.
- The appropriate CPT code is determined by **the service being performed, not solely by the credentials of the rendering provider**.

The Wyoming Department of Health has received several inquiries regarding recent changes to reimbursement and billing expectations for CPT code **97153**. This bulletin provides clarification on appropriate billing practices and summarizes the updates implemented under the Wyoming Medicaid Behavioral Health Fee Schedule.

Reimbursement Updates

Effective **July 1, 2026**, reimbursement rates changed as follows:

CPT Code	Rendering Provider	Previous Rate	Current Rate
97153	Registered Behavior Technician (RBT)	\$10.25	\$12.30
97155	Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)	\$20.50	\$24.60

Note: Rates are reimbursed per 15-minute unit.

Appropriate Use of CPT Code 97153

CPT code **97153** is intended for routine adaptive behavior treatment using an established treatment protocol. This service is typically rendered by a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) under the supervision of a physician, BCBA, or other qualified healthcare professional. If a BCBA is providing routine direct treatment **without modifying the treatment protocol**, the service should also be billed as **97153**.

Examples include:

- Providing routine direct adaptive behavior treatment.
- Implementing an established treatment protocol.
- Conducting skill acquisition using existing interventions.
- Providing functional communication training.
- Conducting discrete trial training.

Appropriate Use of CPT Code 97155

CPT code **97155** should be billed only when a BCBA or other qualified healthcare professional is actively assessing, modifying, or adapting the treatment protocol during a face-to-face session with the client. These services involve clinical decision-making rather than routine implementation of an established treatment plan.

Examples include:

- Modifying the treatment protocol.
- Adjusting behavioral strategies when a client is not making anticipated progress.
- Addressing newly emerged significant behaviors.
- Fading or introducing interventions based on clinical assessment.
- Providing real-time clinical direction to technicians regarding protocol modifications.

Providers are encouraged to review their billing practices to ensure claims accurately reflect the services rendered.

Deployment Information

Deployment Date: August 7, 2026

Audiences:

Assistant Behavior Analyst

Behavior Analyst

Behavior Technician