



P.O. Box 459086
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33345-9089

Talking Points for Providers

Overview:

Sunshine Health is bringing contracting for expressive therapies in house from vendor, MTM. Expressive therapies include music, art, equine and pet therapy.

Key Message:

Sunshine Health is transitioning expressive therapy provider contracting from MTM to in-house management. This transition reflects our commitment to regulatory compliance, financial stewardship and the delivery of quality care.

Talking Points:

- Effective January 1, 2026, Sunshine Health will directly manage contracts for expressive therapy services.
- This change does not affect member benefits or coverage.
- Providers who wish to continue serving Sunshine Health members must contract directly with Sunshine Health.
 - Federal law (42 CFR §455.410) requires that all Medicaid providers be enrolled with the state Medicaid agency and have a unique Medicaid provider identifier before they can receive payment for services funded by Medicaid.
- If you are not contracted by January 1, members may continue seeing you for up to 60 days if you have a Medicaid ID and appropriate certification.
- We encourage providers to begin the contracting process as soon as possible to avoid service disruption.
- For contracting inquiries, please contact SunshineContracting@sunshinehealth.com.

Providers who have a certification and want to join our network must meet the following requirements:

Providers can [submit a request on our website](#) and someone will reach out to them to discuss further.

Practitioner Requirements:

1. Each group and each practitioner who sees/plans to see our members must have a NPI specific to Expressive Therapy



2. Each practitioner must enroll with Medicaid through [AHCA's enrollment wizard](#) using the [Limited Enrollment](#) status. This will be utilized for all expressive therapy service types.
 - NPI Type 1 for each practitioner who sees/will see Sunshine members
 - Provider Type 97 (Managed Care Treating Provider)
 - Provider Specialty Code 987 (SMMC Atypical)
 - Taxonomy 171W00000X/Contractor
 - Provider will supply us the ATN (Application Tracking Number) that will be utilized as their Medicaid ID and we can check status on PPL (Pending Provider Listing)

Credentialing

3. Level II Background results for each practitioner who sees/plan to see Sunshine members
4. [Disclosure of Ownership](#) (group)
5. Allied Health Practitioner Application and/or CAQH
 - Application
 - CAQH: Practitioners will need to complete an application on the CAQH site, instructions are below.
 - To remain current, CAQH practitioners must **reattest** at least every **120 days**.
 - If their **Provider type** is not listed, they should select: **PTNL (Provider Type not Listed)**

How to apply for CAQH in 2025

1. Register with CAQH ProView. Go to the CAQH website, proview.caqh.org, to begin the self-registration process. Some providers may receive a "welcome letter" from a health plan with a CAQH Provider ID number, but you can also register without one.
2. Complete the online application. Log in with your new CAQH Provider ID and fill out all sections of the application, including your personal information, professional history, licenses, and malpractice insurance. Gathering all required documents and information beforehand can streamline the process, which may take a couple of hours.
3. Upload supporting documents. You will need to digitally upload documents such as your professional license, DEA certificate (if applicable), and your malpractice insurance policy.

4. Authorize access. Select which health plans and other organizations you want to have access to your CAQH data.

5. Review and attest. Review all the information you have entered for accuracy. You must "attest" or verify that the information is truthful and complete. You will need to re-attest your profile at least once every 120 days to keep your credentials active.

Important considerations for Florida providers

Florida-specific requirements: The CAQH ProView application is designed to account for specific state-mandated credentialing information. You will indicate Florida as your practice state within the application.

No paper application for CAQH: While a printable PDF of a CAQH provider application exists, the process is completed online through the CAQH ProView portal. The online system is the required method for submitting and updating credentialing data with health plans.

Support: If you need assistance with the process, you can contact the CAQH Help Desk.

6. Malpractice insurance - Florida requirement for Current Malpractice Coverage Limits (Practitioners without Hospital Admitting Privileges): \$100K/\$300K
 - Equine Professional Liability coverage which meets local and state requirements.
7. Copy of certification(s) from applicable board:
 - **Equine:**
 - Instructors must be PATH certified (pathintl.org). Facility can also be PATH certified.
 - Facility must have current membership in at least one professional association: PATH, The Human Equine Alliance for Learning (HEAL), The National Association of Certified Professionals in Equine Therapy (NACPET), American Hippotherapy Association, Inc. (AHA, Inc.) or other similar authoritative entity.
 - **Art:**
 - Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB.org) certification:
 - Registered Art Therapist (ATR)
 - Board-Certified Registered Art Therapist (ATR-BC)
 - Art Therapy Certified Supervisor (ATCS)
 - **Music:**
 - Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT.org)
 - Music Therapy Board Certification (MT-BC)



- **Pet:** Additional validation needed from Cred but pets need to be certified and/or have membership with one of the below.
 - Alliance of Therapy Dogs membership
 - Association of Animal-Assisted Intervention Professionals (aaaiponline.org)

Information on Limited Enrollment for providers:

<https://www.sunshinehealth.com/providers/become-a-provider/Credentialing.html>

Provider news post:

Sunshine Health to Bring Expressive Therapy Contracting In-House Starting January 2026

Sunshine Health announced it will begin managing contracts for expressive therapy services directly, transitioning away from its current vendor, MTM, effective January 1, 2026. This change reflects the organization's continued commitment to regulatory compliance, financial stewardship, and the delivery of high-quality care to its members.

Expressive therapies, including music, art, equine and pet therapy, will remain a covered benefit for members. However, providers who wish to continue offering these services to Sunshine Health members must now contract directly with the health plan.

This transition allows us to streamline operations and ensure we're meeting all federal and state requirements while continuing to support our members with meaningful, therapeutic services.

Under federal law (42 CFR §455.410), all Medicaid providers must be enrolled with the state Medicaid agency and have a unique Medicaid provider identifier to receive payment for Medicaid-funded services. Providers who are not contracted by the January 1 deadline may still serve members for up to 60 days if they have a valid Medicaid ID and appropriate certification.

Sunshine Health is encouraging all current and prospective expressive therapy providers to begin the contracting process as soon as possible to avoid any disruption in care. Providers can [submit a request through the Sunshine Health website](#), after which a representative will reach out to discuss next steps.



For contracting inquiries, providers are encouraged to contact SunshineContracting@sunshinehealth.com.

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