



OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 501 SECURITY FUND

TO: All Participants Enrolled in the Indemnity PPO Plan

FROM: Board of Trustees Operating Engineers Local 501 Security Fund

DATE: July 2023

RE: **Autism Spectrum Disorder – ABA Therapy (Effective October 1, 2021)**

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder, which is a developmental disability. Autism Spectrum Disorder or “ASD encompasses autism and other conditions that fall under the “spectrum” such as Asperger Syndrome and Pervasive Development Disorder. Coverage for ASD typically requires ABA therapy and prescribed medication.

ABA therapy (Applied Behavioral Analysis) is a behavioral health outpatient service used to treat ASD, which involves education services that apply interventions for the purpose of modifying behavior by increasing social skills through language and communication. The patient is usually assigned a behavioral health provider who works with the patient on a one-on-one basis.

Services related to ASD will be a covered benefit at the same level as any other outpatient behavioral health services with no annual or lifetime dollar limits (90% of the contracted rate after deductible for a Network Provider, or office visit copay if applicable). Your out-of-pocket costs are higher if using a Non-Network Provider. Prescription drugs are covered at the generic, formulary brand and non-formulary brand copays.

To find a board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA), please contact Anthem Blue Cross for a list of network providers (see attached flyer). Precertification for ABA therapy is required and normally ordered by a physician or behavioral health provider as part of the ASD treatment plan.

Please make sure you keep this notice with your most recent Summary Plan Description (January 1, 2023). For more specific information regarding Plan benefits, or regarding your eligibility for Plan benefits, please contact the Fund Office at **(800) 320-0106**.

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The Autism Program

Supporting you with compassion
and confidence of care



Every person diagnosed with autism has their own strengths and challenges. That's why our Autism Program is designed to support you and your family in a personalized way. We value you and want you to feel confident managing your care. We'll help you:

- Understand and access resources that are right for you.
- Guide your whole family through the healthcare system.
- Use your benefits to get the best results.

Specialized case management services

Our case managers can work with you and your family by:

- Connecting you to resources on autism and support.
- Tailoring referrals to meet your family's needs.
- Creating a customized care plan.
- Offering education to support your family's health goals.
- Coordinating care so healthcare professionals can work together to better help you.



We're here for you

Call our Autism program team
at **844-269-0538**.

Review of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy

Our dedicated clinicians are highly trained on efficient care that brings about the best results. They'll work with your care team so you or your family member can receive the right care at the right time.



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