



COPPER RIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Title: Purchase & Referred Care Program	
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Purpose:

To define categories of individuals eligible for Purchase/Referred Care (PRC) benefits. Formally known as Contract Health Services, PRC is a benefit that provides funding for medically necessary health services by providers outside of the Indian Health Services (IHS) and Tribal Health Organization (THO) System that cannot be provided directly by Copper River Native Association (CRNA). There are limited funds available for CRNA PRC Customers living in the CRNA service area and require a formal referral through a CRNA provider for non emergency services. The PRC program is a payor of last resort and all other coverages, or available coverages, must be used prior to reimbursement.

Scope:

This policy applies to all individuals who seek funding through the CRNA PRC program and meet the eligibility requirements.

Policy:

Eligibility Requirements:

PRC Customers must meet the following requirements to be eligible for assistance from Copper River Native Association's PRC program. The PRC Coordinator will review the following to determine eligibility:

- A. Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) or Certification Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)
- B. Tribal Member Documentation: A document issued by a federally recognized tribe indicating tribal membership, an enrollment card from a federally recognized tribe, or a letter from the federally recognized tribe indicating tribal enrollment.

As well as both:

- A. Proof of Residency: CRNA service area must be the PRC Customer's primary and physical residence for a minimum of six (6) months, and show proof of residency (unless otherwise verified). Applicants may request a waiver of residency from the appropriate compact village council. Documents that may determine residency include rent receipt, notarized statement from landlord, electric bill in applicant's name, voter registration card or telephone bill in applicant's name.
- B. Eligibility Registration Form: This form is required to determine eligibility for CRNA's PRC Program. Incomplete applications will be returned to sender with a notice of missing documents.

Once determined eligible for PRC, the following requirements must also be met before any payment for PRC is made:



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A. Payor of Last Resort Requirements: Alternative Resources: To maintain compliant with 42

C.F.R. § 136.61 all CRNA PRC Customer must apply and/or utilize all alternative resources. Alternative Resources include, but are not limited to, Denali Kid Care, Medicaid, Medicare, Private Insurance, and Workers' Compensation. Federal law mandates that PRC is not responsible for and will not authorize payment for any health service for where there are alternative resources or if there would be such resources if the patient were to apply for them. Failure to apply for eligible alternate resources will result in denial for payment of medical services provided.

B. Referral Required: Client must be seen by a CRNA Provider before a referral can be written for a non-emergency services at a non-IHS or non-THO facility. CRNA will not reimburse or pay for non-emergency medical costs without a referral from a CRNA provider.

C. 72 Hour Emergency Notification: For emergencies¹ not occurring during CRNA's operating hours, a referral is not needed. Seek medical assistance as soon as possible and then contact the CRNA Purchase & Referred Care Staff at (907) 822-8841 within 72-hours (3 days) to discuss possible payment of services. Elders² and disabled³ CRNA PRC Customer have up to 30 days to notify Purchase & Referred Care Staff of emergency services. Notice may be provided by another person or entity acting on behalf of the CRNA PRC Customer.

D. Air Ambulance Services- Due to limited funds, CRNA PRC program does not cover air ambulance services. Please seek help with ANMC and Tanana Chiefs PRC program.

E. Durable medical Equipment (DME) - Due to limited funds, CRNA PRC program does not cover DME.

Exception to eligibility of care are:

1. Children of an Eligible Alaska Native or American Indian, including Non-Alaska Native/American Indian Children (i.e. Foster Children, Adopted Children, stepchildren, legal ward or orphans) until they reach the age of nineteen (19).
2. Non-Alaska Native/American Indian women pregnant with an Alaska Native/American Indian Child. Services provided to these women are limited to those services that will affect the outcome of the pregnancy. Proof of Eligibility is a statement of paternity. Limit of services are only eligible at CRNA.

Services not covered under CRNA's PRC

- A. Services not covered: Second opinions, Inpatient/Outpatient Mental Health services, Inpatient/outpatient substance abuse programs, Nursing home or long-term care facility expense, Routine or Emergent Dental Care, and Medical care Provided outside of CRNA Service Area. (i.e. Service area of ANMC, Annette Island Health Center, Tanana Chiefs Conference, SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, Ketchikan Indian Corporation)
- B. Student Medical and Dental Care program is not provided by CRNA. Please seek enrollment for these services with Alaska Native Medical Center if schooling is outside of Alaska. If within Alaska, please enroll with the appropriate PRC services area. (i.e. Service area of ANMC, Annette Island Health Center, Tanana Chiefs Conference, SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, Ketchikan Indian Corporation)
- C. Healthcare when traveling outside of the State of Alaska is not covered by CRNA. Please seek help from ANMC PRC program.

Appeal Process:

If the PRC Customer is not satisfied with the PRC Coordinator's written decision, the applicant has a right



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to appeal the decision. The process is:

- A. The applicant must submit a written appeal to the PRC Coordinator within thirty (30) working days from the date on notification letter of denial.
- B. The PRC Coordinator will gather all pertinent information (policies, correspondence, etc.) pertaining to the decision being disputed and present it to the CEO. The CEO will determine if the decision was made in compliance with CRNA PRC Policies and Procedures.
- C. The CEO will have the final decision.

Definitions:

1. Emergency/Urgent: Any Medical condition for which immediate medical attention is necessary to prevent the death or serious impairment of the health of an individual (42 CFR 36.21)Term Elder used to identify an individual that is 62 years or older.
2. Disabled persons require proof of Disability.
3. Refer to CRNA Service Area Policy for definition of service area.

Related Documents: CRNA Procedures for Purchased and Referred Care Services
CRNA Service Area Map