

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Medicaid Optional Services including Statutory Authority and Impacts of Deletion

Category of Service	Additional Information	Statutory Authority	May/ Shall Provide	Purpose of Service	Impact if not available	Medicare Cost-Sharing Requirement ¹
Adult Day Care Care Coordination Chore Day Habilitation Environmental Modification Intensive Active Treatment/Therapy Meals Residential Habilitation Residential Supported Living Respite Care Specialized Equipment & Supplies Specialized Private Duty Nursing Supported Employment Transportation	Home and Community Based Waiver Services	AS 47.07.030(c) AS 47.07.045	May	<p>Supports a less costly and more patient-centered alternative to recipients who meet the nursing home level of care</p> <p>Not enough nursing home beds in Alaska</p> <p>Keeps patient in community and close to family</p>	<p>Lack of nursing home beds available to cover patient demand</p> <p>Increased nursing home cost</p> <p>Increase in lack of access to care for a high-needs population</p> <p>Lawsuit potential for failure to meet Supreme Court Olmstead decision requiring least restrictive setting</p>	No
Drug Abuse Centers Mental Health Services Rehabilitative Services Residential Habilitation	Community Mental Health	AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(4)	May	<p>Provides outpatient treatment options to a high-needs population in the most appropriate, least restrictive, and lowest cost setting</p> <p>Provides proactive preventive and maintenance care, avoiding or reducing the need for reactive higher cost care (eg, inpatient psychiatric hospital)</p>	<p>Exacerbation of treatable, or otherwise manageable conditions to the extent that hospitalization is required</p> <p>Lack of inpatient psychiatric hospital beds, which impacts access to care</p> <p>Increase in out of state care and related transportation costs for services that are not available in state</p> <p>Increased incarcerations for initial and repeat offenses</p>	Yes ¹
Case Management Services		AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.90(19)	May	Provides a full range of case management for children with disabilities	Increase in duplication of services, inpatient hospital stays, ER visits, medication management issues	Yes ¹
Chiropractic Services		AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(3)	May	Provides chiropractic services to individuals under age 21 and dual Medicare/Medicaid eligible recipients	<p>Potential increase to some mandatory services</p> <p>Expenditures are required for EPSDT and Medicare Cost Sharing</p>	Yes ¹

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<i>Dental Services</i>	Enhanced Adult Dental & Denture Services	AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.067	Shall (47.07.067) (subject to appropriation)	Provides preventive and restorative care to reduce the need for more expensive and painful emergent care	<p>Increase in dental-related ER visits resulting from lack of preventive/restorative care</p> <p>Recipients who need restorative care, including dentures, may experience difficulty obtaining employment, particularly in positions that require face to face interaction with the public</p> <p>Lack of preventive dental care can later result in the need for more expensive and painful emergent dental care</p> <p>Lack of preventive dental care can result in non-dental health conditions (eg individuals with periodontal disease have a higher incidence of diabetes and heart disease) which would increase expenditures for other Medicaid services</p>	No
<i>Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Services</i>	Includes Respiratory Therapy	AS 47.07.030(b)	May	<p>Provides long-term-use equipment: hospital beds, mobility devices, commodes, oxygen concentrators, wheelchairs, etc</p> <p>Respiratory therapy assessments and equipment provided through a DME supplier</p>	<p>Decreased or total lack of independent mobility</p> <p>Decreased independence, difficulty obtaining and maintaining employment</p> <p>Increased costly inpatient stays due to reliance upon oxygen</p>	Yes ¹

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<i>End Stage Renal Disease</i>		AS 47.07.030(c)	May	Provides services for treatment of end stage kidney disease Medicaid covers the first 3 months of care and then cost is typically covered by Medicare for dual eligible recipients (Most patients become Medicare eligible due to terminal aspect of this disease process)	Increased speed of disease progression resulting in other acute and/or chronic conditions such as multiple organ failure and exacerbation of diabetic related conditions Significantly increased cost for ER and inpatient services Earlier death than would occur with treatment	Yes¹
<i>Hearing Services</i>	Audiology (Adult)	AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides hearing assessment treatment to improve the recipient's ability to hear	Difficulty obtaining employment in positions that require oral communication	Yes¹
	Hearing Aid Supplies	AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides assistive hearing devices (hearing aids) to improve or create the recipient's ability to hear	Difficulty obtaining employment in positions that require oral communication	No
<i>Hospice Care</i>		AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides end of life care that focuses on pain management, attending to the emotional needs of the patient	The pain management aspect, including drugs, of hospice care would have to be provided by private duty nurses, personal care attendant, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and other providers Lack of respite care and other vital support for family members	Yes¹
<i>Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DD)</i>		AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(11)(A)	May	Provides inpatient long-term care for individuals with intellectual disabilities who are unable to live alone or in other community settings	Increased burden on family and community, as there are few other treatment settings for individuals with extremely challenging behaviors Increased cost and patient load in other program areas	No

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<i>Inpatient Psychiatric Services</i>	Under 21 or over 65 years of age	AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(11)(A)	May	No other appropriate service options or funding available to this population	Few or no alternatives to this type of care Increase in homelessness and incarceration	No
<i>Medical Supplies</i>		AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Short-term-use and disposable supplies: blood sugar test strips, incontinence products (including diapers, catheters) protective gloves, wipes, bandages, etc.	Significantly increased risk of infection for both patient and caregiver Higher utilization of physician office visits, ER visits, labs and x-rays Decreased independence Increased out of pocket expense for patient Increased out of pocket expense for caregiver	No
<i>Nutrition Services</i>		AS 47.07.030(b)	May (for pregnant women)	Provides services for individuals who are at high risk nutritionally and those who are pregnant	Increased risk of diabetes, low birth weight, and other pregnancy complications Increased cost of mandatory services as a result of complications	Yes ¹

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<i>Occupational Therapy (Adult)</i>	Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy Speech Therapy	AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides specialized assistance to recipients experiencing physical, developmental, or mental health issues to effectively increase independent living Provides physical therapy to rehabilitate, restore or learn new methods for physical functionality related to illness or trauma Speech therapy for stroke victims	Delayed or no recovery from illness or trauma Decreased independence, difficulty obtaining and maintaining employment May decrease ability to communicate with others May experience difficulty obtaining employment	Yes¹
<i>Personal Care Services</i>		AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(15)	May	Provides assistance with activities of daily living which help enable independent living, reducing the need for assisted living and nursing home care	Increased risk of decubitus, infection, emergency room care, inpatient hospital stays	No
<i>Podiatry</i>		AS 47.07.030(c)	May	Provides podiatry services to individuals under age 21 and dual Medicare/Medicaid eligible recipients	Potential increase to some mandatory services Expenditures are required for EPSDT and Medicare Cost Sharing	Yes¹

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<i>Prescription Drugs</i>		AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides therapeutic drug treatment for acute and chronic conditions Drug therapy improves therapeutic outcomes including those that preserve life, for disabling physical and mental health conditions	Increase in more costly care - ER visits, inpatient hospital, specialized inpatient, and long term nursing care Higher incidence of life-threatening conditions Higher incidence of death outcomes Increased need for alternate housing options for mental health and substance abuse conditions Decreased life span for treatable diseases like hyper and hypo thyroid, thyroid cancers, diabetes, COPD, heart disease, hypertension, oral health issues, etc	Yes¹
<i>Private Duty Nursing (Adult)</i>		AS 47.07.030(c)	May	1:1 medical care for individuals who require clinical treatment that can be managed outside the facility setting	Increase in more costly care - ER visits, inpatient hospital, specialized inpatient, and long term nursing care Removes recipient from home	No
<i>Prosthetics and Orthotics</i>		AS 47.07.030(b)	May	Provides individuals with customized devices to replace or enhance missing or deformed body parts	Increased need for other support services (PCA services, high cost DME equipment - wheelchairs and other medical supplies) Decreased or total lack of mobility Decreased independence, difficulty obtaining and maintaining employment	Yes¹

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<i>Psychology Services</i>		AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(16)	May	Provides medically necessary psychological testing to determine the status of the patient's mental, intellectual, and emotional functioning	The program would have to pay for other mental health providers to provide testing services Therapeutic treatment plans are dependent upon appropriate and adequate testing	Yes¹
<i>Vision Services</i>	Vision Exams Corrective Lenses Frames	AS 47.07.030(b) AS 47.07.900(10)	May	Provides adults with exam necessary to receive corrective lenses/glasses and detection of eye disease	Decreased independence, difficulty obtaining and maintaining employment Greater impact to elderly and disabled individuals (Medicare does not provide vision services) Undetected eye disease which could result in high medical cost	No

¹ Medicaid must pay cost sharing for any service that Medicare covers for dual eligibles. Dual eligibles are enrolled in both Medicaid and Medicare.

Note 1: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) considers non-emergency Medicaid transportation, including accommodations, to be optional services. However, in order to provide access to medically necessary health care, these services are mandatory for Alaska.

Note 2: Certain services listed above are indicated as "adult". These services are mandatory for children under the Early and Periodic Screening and Diagnostic Testing (EPSDT) mandate.

Note 3: For all optional services, those provided through a tribal health facility to an American Indian / Alaska Native include no general fund expenditures.