

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1284

By: Representative Gonzales

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM TO
RECOGNIZE AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE AS A
PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID
PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE AN ADVANCED PRACTICE
REGISTERED NURSE AS A PRIMARY CARE
PROVIDER.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 77, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-77-135. Primary care provider for Arkansas Medicaid Program –
Advanced practice registered nurse.

(a)(1) The Arkansas Medicaid Program shall recognize an advanced
practice registered nurse licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing for
all purposes as a primary care provider authorized to carry out the duties of
a primary care physician and a primary care case manager.

(2) Purposes under subdivision (a)(1) of this section include
without limitation:

(A) Being recognized as the initial healthcare provider in
the federal Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative payment model;

(B) Performing initial diagnosis;

(C) Acting as the team leader of family practice
professionals and the patient-centered medical home;



- (D) Maintaining the medical records of a patient;
 - (E) Ordering laboratory tests and records management as needed for patient care;
 - (F) Providing preventive and periodic examinations within primary care;
 - (G) Referring a patient to a physician, a specialist, or a hospital when necessary; and
 - (H) Treating a patient within the scope of practice and licensure of an advanced practice registered nurse.
- (b) The program shall reimburse an advanced practice registered nurse:
- (1) Not less than the current reimbursement rate for services performed within the scope of practice and licensure of the advanced practice registered nurse;
 - (2) One hundred percent (100%) of the physician reimbursement rate for all out-of-pocket costs incurred by the advanced practice registered nurse such as the costs of laboratory tests, x-rays, and any additional tests ordered or conducted by the advanced practice registered nurse; and
 - (3)(A) For any other costs and services performed within the scope of practice and licensure of the advanced practice registered nurse.
- (B) The scope of practice and licensure of the advanced practice registered nurse shall be determined by the board.
- (c) A healthcare insurance policy in which the premiums are paid directly or indirectly by the program also shall recognize and reimburse an advanced practice registered nurse under subsections (a) and (b) of this section.
- (d) This section does not increase the scope of practice or licensure of an advanced practice registered nurse.