



FAQ: RUBI, RUBI Pilot Program, and Level 2, RUBI Train the Trainer

Q: What is RUBI?

A: RUBI is a manualized evidence-based parenting training program for parents and caregivers of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder or related neurodevelopmental disorders.

Q: Who can provide RUBI parenting training to MaineCare families?

A: A provider who meets the staff qualification requirements listed in the relevant section of the MaineCare Benefits manual and has:

- Completed the Seattle Children's Level 1 RUBI training provided by OCFS or an individual who completed the Seattle Children's Level 2 'train the trainer' provided through OCFS, or
- At minimum a master's degree in a relevant field and completed RUBI training delivered by a RUBI certified provider.

Q: How can RUBI be provided to a MaineCare member?

A: RUBI may be incorporated into Children's Home and Community Based Treatment (HCT) under Section 65 and Rehabilitative and Community Support Services (RCS) and BCBA Services under Section 28 when it is clinically indicated and identified in the member's individual treatment plan (ITP) or plan of care. RUBI is not a standalone MaineCare Service with its own discrete billing code. MaineCare providers must comply with the following service-specific guidance:

RCS (Section 28.04-1) and Specialized RCS (Section 28.04-2): Family participation in treatment services is required, but conducting parent-only sessions cannot be the primary focus of the service. However, RUBI components and individual sessions can be incorporated when clinically indicated and documented in the individual treatment plan.

BCBA Services (Section 28.04-3): BCBA Services delivered as part of Specialized RCS may include parent training on behavioral principles and interventions, which is limited to six hours per member per quarter. This parent training may include RUBI sessions.

HCT (Section 65.05-9): Providers may only deliver HCT to a child's parents or guardians without the child present if it is clinically indicated. Parent- and guardian-only services cannot be the primary focus of HCT. HCT providers are permitted to incorporate RUBI sessions as part of HCT, however, RUBI sessions do not count toward the monthly average of three face-to-face contacts per week.

Q: Does MaineCare have a discrete billing code for RUBI?

A: No, RUBI does not have its own billing code because MaineCare does not reimburse for RUBI as a standalone service. MaineCare is considering adding RUBI as a standalone service in the future.

Q: Can RUBI be delivered as part of Children’s Behavioral Health Day Treatment under Section 65?

A: No, RUBI is not appropriate to deliver as part of Children’s Behavioral Health Day Treatment under Section 65.

Q: What is the RUBI Pilot program?

A: 24 RUBI Level 1 trained professionals (RUBI Pilot Providers) will be selected by the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) to provide RUBI to ten (10) families per pilot site, in each of the 16 counties in Maine, with a minimum of one pilot per county.

Rubi Pilot Providers will be reimbursed by OCFS, if selected (*Pilot site reimbursement is not part of MaineCare billing*). The RUBI Pilot providers may be entities delivering a MaineCare service, but they do not have to deliver MaineCare services to be selected.

For families to qualify for the RUBI Pilot Program, their child would not be receiving RUBI in a current service model, and would have a qualifying diagnosis. Preference will be given to families who are waiting for a community-based service.

Q: How is the RUBI Pilot Program different than other MaineCare-covered services?

A: The work of the pilots is not covered by MaineCare and is not billable to MaineCare. Participating children and families may continue to receive their approved MaineCare billable services when participating in the pilot program, but those MaineCare services may not be duplicative of the services delivered as part of the pilot.

Q: Can virtual services be provided in the RUBI Pilots?

A: As part of the RUBI Pilots, groups may be virtual, or in-person as determined by the family’s availability and will be determined by each pilot site. (Reminder, services provided as part of the RUBI pilots are not billable to MaineCare and may not duplicate services billed to MaineCare).

Q: Do RUBI Pilot sites have to offer both in-person and virtual training options?

A: Yes, as part of the Seattle Children’s pilot criteria, pilot locations must offer both in-person and virtual training, and this will be determined by each pilot site. (Reminder, services provided as part of the RUBI Pilot Program are not billable to MaineCare and may not duplicate services billed to MaineCare).

Q: What is the RUBI Level 2 Training?

A: The RUBI Level 2 Training is ‘Train the Trainer’, which will allow community providers to train their staff for sustainability in the future, should they wish to continue providing RUBI to families they serve. Currently, the training is being offered at no cost to individuals/providers in Maine by OCFS.

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