



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
UNDER SECRETARY FOR
HEALTH WASHINGTON DC
20420

July 10, 2024

Dear Facility Leader,

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is pleased to announce implementation of a revised VA-Urban Indian Organization (UIO) Reimbursement Agreement template. This Agreement replaces and expands upon the prior direct care Agreements between VA and UIO, originally executed beginning in 2022. This significant update underscores our commitment to strengthening the partnership between VA and Urban Indian Health Programs to share resources and enhance access to health care services provided to American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans.

The revised Agreement includes several key improvements designed to expand the scope of reimbursements and honor the unique capabilities and traditions of AI/AN Health Programs. Some of the notable enhancements in the Agreement are as follows:

1. **Streamlined Agreement:** We have streamlined the Agreement to be more concise and reduce duplicative terms.
2. **Expanded Scope:** The scope of reimbursable services has been broadened to include additional types of Direct Care services, thereby offering more comprehensive financial support for THP facilities.
3. **Removed VA Quality Oversight:** We have removed the requirement to submit proof of accreditation and to attend an annual quality review, reducing the administrative burden and resources spent on documenting and reporting.
4. **Modified Pharmacy Requirement:** We have increased the dispensing fee rate, continuing to reimburse at the Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC).
5. **Adjusted Terms:** We have expanded timely filing to 36 months and removed the expiration date to allow for maximum reimbursement and reduced administrative burden.

These revisions reflect the valuable feedback and recommendations received from UIO leaders and health program administrators during our consultations. We are confident that these improvements will significantly enhance the Reimbursement Agreement Program (RAP) and will further strengthen the partnership between the VA and UIOs.

The revised VA - UIO Reimbursement Agreement is attached and will be available for review on the VA's website (<https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/providers/info-IHS-THP.asp>) Additionally, VA has sent the agreement to all current participating UIOs for signature. If your facility has not received the template, please contact us at Tribal.Agreements@va.gov.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the RAP program office at Tribal.Agreements@va.gov.

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We deeply value your ongoing support and collaboration in this important endeavor. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the health and well-being of our Veterans.

Sincerely,

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