

BCHHS Health Billing Guide FY 2025

Summary of Changes

The following items have been changed from the approved FY 2024 BCHHS Health Billing Guide and Fee Schedule and presented to you for adoption for FY 2025.

Billing Guide

- Updated to accept personal checks for all fees (pg 3).
- That we provide some immunizations to adults at no cost. Previous version only indicated children. (E.g., Merck, GSK and COVID Bridge patient assistance program) (pg 3).
- Updated list of third party payers we accept (pg 4).
- For returned checks, added debit card and credit card as acceptable payment options (pg 6).
- Updated the BCCCP Financial Eligibility scale (pg 8).
- Added language for PrEP to match the STI program (pg 11).
 - There are no client fees for routine PrEP screenings.
 - Client fees may be associated with non-routine PrEP screenings.
 - We may bill Medicaid, Medicare, and third party payers where appropriate.
- Reworded the definition of a Temporary Tattoo Permit (pg 15).
 - **New wording:** A temporary tattoo permit is a permit issued to a tattoo artist valid for 1-14 consecutive days. Temporary tattoo permits may be issued for: visiting artists, instructional classes, tattoo conventions, etc.
 - **Old wording:** A temporary tattoo permit is a permit issued to a tattoo artist at an organized tattooing event not to exceed 7 days. The organized tattoo event must have a minimum of 15 tattoo artists and at a minimum meet the requirements of NCGS 130A-283 and Rules Governing Tattooing 15A NCAC 18A. 3200.

A guest artist is a tattoo artist that has a tattoo permit issued by another county or state and operates out of an existing permitted Buncombe County tattoo establishment for a period of time not to exceed a total of 30 days per calendar year in one location. Guest artist applications must be received 15 days prior to permitting.

- Update sliding fee schedules based on new Federal Poverty Guidelines (pg 16).
- In addition to the Practice Manager, clarified that a designee may also make exceptions to the fee policies (pg 17).

Fee Schedule

- Increased Improvement Permit cost for 500 gallon septic systems from \$200 to \$400 as it requires the same amount of work as an Authorization for Construction permit.
- Decreased to Septic Repair fee to \$0 to incentivize people to find out how to repair a failing septic system.
- Increased Construction Authorization, Improvement & Operation Permits - Commercial & Industrial fee to align with Residential pricing.
- Increased numerous vaccine prices and FP methods to align with BCBS and Medicaid reimbursement rates.