



VA Indian Health Services/Tribal Health Program/Urban Indian Organization (I/T/U) Reimbursement Agreements Program (Lower 48 States)

Overview

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) I/T/U Reimbursement Agreements Program (RAP) allows Indian Health Services (IHS), Tribal Health Programs (THP) and Urban Indian Organizations (UIO) healthcare facilities to receive reimbursement from the VA for healthcare services provided to eligible American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Veterans.

Benefits

- Medical Benefits Package: VA will reimburse for healthcare services provided in VA's medical benefits package available to eligible Veterans under [38 CFR § 17.38](#).
- Choice of Care Provider: Eligible AI/AN Veterans can choose to receive their health care from an I/T/U facility participating in the RAP and/or VA facility.
- No Prior Authorization: VA-preauthorization is not required for participating I/T/U facilities providing direct care services Eligible AI/AN to be reimbursed.
- No Copayment: VA Copayments do not apply to direct care services delivered by I/T/U facilities.
- Outpatient Pharmacy: The VA will reimburse I/T/U facilities for outpatient medications dispensed by the facility that are on the VA's formulary.
- No Outstanding Balances: I/T/U facilities bill third parties prior to billing VA. VA is only responsible for the balance remaining after third party reimbursements (except for Federal payers i.e., Medicare/Medicaid, Military Tricare, etc., which must be the first and only payer).

Eligibility and Enrollment

An AI/AN Veteran is eligible if they are enrolled in VA's system of patient enrollment per 38 U.S.C. § 1705 and 38 C.F.R. 1736 or is otherwise eligible for hospital care and medical services under 38 U.S.C. § 1705 (c)(2) and 38 C.F.R. 17.37 (a)-(c). The AI/AN Veteran must also be eligible for health care services from IHS, THP, and/or UIO.

Payment Methodologies

Healthcare Services are reimbursed according to the following payment methods and rates:

- Outpatient services: IHS All Inclusive Rate published in the Federal Register for IHS/THP facilities and Medicare rates for UIO facilities
- Inpatient hospital services: Medicare rates.
- Critical Access Hospitals: Medicare rates.
- Ambulatory Surgical Services: Medicare rates.
- Outpatient Pharmacy: Actual cost for IHS/THP facilities and Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) plus dispensing fee for UIO facilities

Website

For more information, please visit the following websites:

- [VHA Office of Integral Veteran Care \(IVC\) Website](#)
- [VA Office of Tribal Government Relations Website](#)

Contact Information

For questions or more information on getting started with the reimbursement agreement, contact the VA at Tribal.Agreements@va.gov.