

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Nov. 18, 2020

Autism Task Force to meet Nov. 23 to learn about private health insurance coverage for autism-related services

BISMARCK, N.D. – The state’s Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force will meet Monday, Nov. 23, from 1 to 4:45 p.m. Central Time by video conference to hear presentations from Sanford Health Plan and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota on their coverage options for applied behavior analysis and other autism-related services and supports.

Members will review current enrollment and expenditures for the state’s Medicaid ASD waiver, ASD voucher program and services offered under the applied behavior analysis Medicaid state plan amendment. The agenda also includes updates on workforce efforts, reports from the communication and public awareness and training and education workgroups, and discussion on national and state ASD data trends.

Other topics will also be discussed. The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The task force meeting is open to the public and will be held by [Microsoft Teams](#) and by conference call at 701-328-0950, conference ID 954 281 208#. People who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or krfremming@nd.gov.

The legislature created the task force in 2009; members are appointed by the governor. The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that enable individuals with ASD to live at home or in community settings, and programs helping individuals with autism spectrum disorder to transition from school-based settings to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services, and reviews, amends and updates the ASD state plan to better meet the needs of individuals with ASD.

Autism spectrum disorder services information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html, and task force information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html.

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