In general, MO HealthNet will reimburse only for medically necessary services, which means activities and interventions that are related to an individual’s serious mental illness and the functional limitations they face due to the mental illness.

In the context of a vocational/educational specialist working on an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) or Assertive Community Treatment/Transition Aged Youth (ACT/TAY) team, this means that activities billable to MO HealthNet are those interventions that remediate symptoms, teach illness management and recovery skills, and are related to the functional limitations of the person due to their mental illness. This includes the following types of interventions:

- Teaching and modeling generalized skills that will enable the client to be more successful in any job/school situation, including: self-care skills such as proper attire and hygiene; punctuality; time management; prioritizing tasks; coping with stress; problem solving skills, when those skills have been compromised by symptoms of mental illness. The rehabilitation activity is intended to remediate the consequences of mental illness and the treatment strategies employed can be defended as medically needed.

- Assisting a client in finding/keeping a job or enrollment/staying in school while attending to the impact of symptoms of mental illness. This may include assessing readiness for employment or school; discussing vocational/educational interests; assisting to identify opportunities by reviewing school information or want ads/employment notices; helping make contact with potential employers or schools; practicing interview skills by teaching and modeling appropriate behaviors, habits, and skills conducive to presenting well during job interviews or meetings with schools and acquiring employment/education; accompanying clients to job interviews or meetings with schools and talking to them afterwards about what strategies worked or didn’t work; and documenting how these activities are related to the client’s treatment plan.

When these types of interventions are provided to the client, the ACT/ACT TAY team rate may be billed to either MO HealthNet or to the Department, depending on the client’s eligibility status.

PLEASE NOTE: Some clients may have vocational/educational deficits due to factors unrelated to mental illness. Poverty, lack of education and exposure to work/school settings can all contribute to unemployment or lack of education. Medicaid funds are not intended to remediate these “social” deficiencies. Some of the above activities also fall under the purview of the Vocational Rehabilitation agency, and collaboration with them is a critical part of supporting the employment goals of ACT clients.

Examples of interventions MO HealthNet (Medicaid) will not pay for:

- Transporting the client to and from work, when the sole purpose is taking someone to and
from a job or a job interview

- Job skill training and coaching for specific job skills and job tasks (example how to work the computer, fryer, phone system, drill press, etc.)
- Supervising a work crew
- Speeches to Rotary and other community groups seeking employer engagement
- Business engagement or “cold calls” to employers for generic job leads

When these types of interventions are provided, they may **not** be billed to MO HealthNet.

Some non-Medicaid reimbursable interventions provided by the ACT vocational/educational specialist may be billed to the Department using the Vocational Training – ACT service procedure code:

**Vocational Services - ACT**

ACT/ACT TAY Vocational and Supported Education services including:
- **Job Development** - including staff activities that are focused on working with employers as customers to help them meet business needs while providing good job matching for individuals served, with or without the presence of the individual served; developing relationships with local businesses and educational programs to inform potential employers and/or educational institutions about the services that the vocational/educational specialist provides.
- **Job coaching** - observation of a client in a work setting, coaching, instructing, teaching job skills and how to improve job performance.
- **Being a liaison between the client and employer and problem-solving issues as they arise**
- **Educational coaching** - observation of a client in an educational setting, coaching, instructing, teaching how to improve educational performance.
- **Being a liaison between consumer and educational institution and problem-solving issues as they arise.**
- The intent of this service is to reimburse for vocational/educational activities performed by ACT/ACT TAY team staff which are not reimbursable by Medicaid.

Staff Qualification: An individual meeting, at a minimum, the requirements of a Community Support Specialist with one (1) year of experience and training in supported employment and is employed as the designated vocational specialist on an ACT/ACT TAY team. Training and knowledge is essential to performing Supported Education; training should be provided if not part of the individual’s prior experience.

Procedure Code: H2023 HK, 15 minute unit