



**AUTISM COVERAGE FUND  
BOILERPLATE REPORT  
PA 59 OF 2013  
SECTION 802**

**Executive Summary:**

Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley on behalf of Governor Rick Snyder signed into law on April 18, 2012 Public Act 101 of 2012 (SB 981 – Senate Majority Leader Richardville, sponsor) which created the Autism Coverage Reimbursement Act (MCL 550-1831-550.1841). Public Act 200 of 2012, section 802 of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) budget bill, outlines the reporting requirements for the Autism Coverage Fund. The department shall provide the report to the house and senate appropriations committees, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget director using the September 30, 2013 reporting requirement. In addition, this report may also be found online under the following location:

- Consumers Section – Publications – Reports of the Department of Insurance and Financial Services website at: [www.michigan.gov/difs](http://www.michigan.gov/difs)

The Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program, established by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), also includes the Autism Coverage Fund. By Executive Order 2013-1, the Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program was transferred from LARA to Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) on March 18, 2013.

In addition, self-insured plans that self-adopt an autism benefit may also, directly or through their third party administrator (TPA), file claims for employees who reside in Michigan and also receive a diagnosis and treatment for ASD by Michigan providers. This fund was created for the purpose of assisting health insurance carriers to offset their costs of offering an autism benefit for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Specifically, this report covers fiscal year 2014 from October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014.

**Reporting Requirements:**

Section 802 requires the department to do the following:

- (1) *The department shall produce a report that contains all of the following information on the autism coverage program for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014:*
  - (a) *The number of reimbursements for diagnosis or treatment in each county.*
  - (b) *The average cost of a diagnosis reimbursement.*
  - (c) *The average cost of a treatment reimbursement.*



**2014 Data:**

The following items contain the data and information as required under this Section 802 for reporting purposes.

*(1) The department shall produce a report that contains all of the following information on the autism coverage program for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014:*

*(a) The number of reimbursements for diagnosis or treatment in each county.*

- Grand Traverse 6
- Ingham 13
- Kalamazoo 1,708
- Kent 2,554
- Livingston 46
- Macomb 3,495
- Midland 1
- Oakland 5,366
- Ottawa 247
- Saginaw 37
- St. Clair 6
- Washtenaw 2,395
- Wayne 3,248
- Other 1

**Total Reimbursements: 19,123**

*(b)&(c) The average cost of a diagnosis/treatment reimbursement.*

- \$138.13

**Summary:**

The department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) continues to work with and encourage insurance carriers, TPAs and self-insured companies to participate in the Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program. As the provider network has grown there has been an increase in requests submitted. It is anticipated that the submissions will continue to increase in the future.

With only 138 Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) in the state of Michigan along with the provider network not fully established, it has been difficult to meet the demand for ASD related services. Through collaborative efforts with the Michigan Autism Council and insurance carriers, DIFS is working with interested stakeholders to help overcome challenges and/or barriers to implementing these new autism laws.