Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing Billing Guide

Authorization requirements

No prior authorization is required for the first 14 hours of psychological or neuropsychological testing services.

Authorization is required once the 14-hour threshold is reached.

Eligible providers

Testing services may be provided by appropriately licensed:

- Psychologists
- Psychology extenders working under supervision
- Psychometrists or psychometricians working under supervision
- Master's-level behavioral health professionals whose licensure permits testing services
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) for neuropsychological testing, when applicable

Note: When testing is administered by a technician or psychometrist, the supervising psychologist is responsible for interpretation of results, report writing, and final report approval.

Billing codes

Evaluation services

Use these codes for:

- Interpretation of testing results
- Integration of clinical data
- Treatment planning
- Report writing
- Feedback sessions

Service	Base Code (First Hour)	Add-on Code (Each Additional Hour)
Psychological testing evaluation	96130	96131
Neuropsychological testing evaluation	96132	96133
Neurobehavioral status exam	96116	96121

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Test administration and scoring

Use these codes when administering and scoring two or more tests.

Provider Type	Base Code (First 30 Minutes)	Add-on Code (Each Additional 30 minutes)
Psychologist or qualified health professional (QHP)	96136	96137
Technician	96138	96139

Automated testing

CPT Code	Description
96146	Single automated psychological or neuropsychological test administered electronically with automated results

Base codes and add-on codes

Psychological and neuropsychological testing services are frequently completed over multiple dates of service.

Providers must first bill the appropriate base code:

- 96116
- 96130
- 96132
- 96136
- 96138

Additional time is billed using the corresponding add-on code:

- 96121
- 96131
- 96133
- 96137
- 96139

Six-month billing window

Add-on codes do not have to be billed on the same date as the base code.

Providers may submit applicable add-on codes up to 180 days (six months) after the initial service date when testing, interpretation, report writing, and feedback occur over multiple dates.

Example

1. Initial neuropsychological evaluation is billed with 96132.
2. Additional interpretation and report-writing time is billed with 96133.
3. CPT code 96133 may be submitted up to 180 days after the original 96132 service date.

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Common billing errors
Avoid the following:

- Billing an add-on code before billing the associated base code.
- Holding all claims until testing is complete and missing timely filing requirements.

Telehealth

The following evaluation services may be billed via telehealth when all program requirements are met. Please note, no other codes are eligible to be billed for telehealth:

- 96130
- 96131
- 96132

Providers must comply with all applicable telehealth and program-specific requirements when billing these services.

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