

How autism treatment authorizations will continue into 2024

Typically, authorization requests for autism treatment services are approved for six months. However, this year:

- We'll automatically continue these authorizations into 2024 because they're set to end on Dec. 31 due to the change discussed below.
- Providers won't have to submit a request to continue these authorizations into 2024.

In late December, Blue Cross Behavioral HealthSM will send letters to affected members and their providers that will indicate:

- That the authorization was continued into 2024 without the provider having to submit an extension request
- The date in 2024 on which the continued authorization will end
- That the provider should submit a request to extend the authorization, if appropriate, prior to the 2024 end date

We're doing this to help providers manage existing authorizations for autism treatment in preparation for the upcoming change. As a reminder, starting Jan. 1, 2024, prior authorization and concurrent review requests will be managed through Blue Cross Behavioral Health.

Refer to the document titled [Blue Cross Behavioral Health: Frequently asked questions for providers](#) for:

- More information about the change that will occur on Jan. 1.
- Instructions for how to submit a request to extend an approved authorization. Look in the section titled "Submitting prior authorization requests and concurrent review requests."