

Q1: What new services are now covered for adults?

A1: AHCCCS now covers outpatient speech therapy and cochlear implants for adults aged 21 and older.

Q2: When did this expanded coverage begin?

A2: The new benefits became effective October 1, 2025.

Q3: Why did AHCCCS add these services for adults?

A3: The change follows the passage of Arizona Senate Bill 1741 (June 2025) and removes previous exclusions for adult speech and hearing services.

Q4: What is outpatient speech therapy?

A4: Outpatient speech therapy includes evaluation and treatment for speech, language, and hearing-related needs.

Q5: Who is eligible to receive these services?

A5: Adults 21 years or older enrolled in AHCCCS who meet medical necessity.

Q6: Are cochlear implants fully covered?

A6: Yes, when a medical evaluation demonstrates medical necessity. Rehabilitation services are also included.

Q7: Do I need prior authorization for these services?

A7: Some services may require prior authorization under the following policies:
AMPM Policy 310-JJ, Orthotics and Prosthetic Devices, AMPM Policy 310-X, Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapies, and AMPM Policy 820, Fee-For-Service Prior Authorization Requirements.

Q8: How do I access speech therapy or cochlear implant services?

A8: Members should speak with their provider, obtain evaluations or referrals, and coordinate with their AHCCCS health plan.

Q9: Will these changes affect my current benefits?

A9: No. These updates expand available services without reducing existing benefits.