

**DATE:** July 23, 2019

**TO:** AHCCCS Contractors

**FROM:** Dr. Sara Salek, Chief Medical Officer, Office of the Director

**SUBJECT:** American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> Tool

According to contract No. YH19-001, contractors shall utilize the ASAM 3<sup>rd</sup> edition assessment tool when assessing AHCCCS adult members for substance use disorders. This tool is branded by ASAM as ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> (<https://www.asamcontinuum.org/>).

Through a phased in approach, AHCCCS is implementing the ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> assessment tool to improve treatment outcomes with greater assessment fidelity and proper level of care placement. This assessment tool provides the entire treatment team with a computerized clinical standard decision support system for assessing members with substance use disorders and co-occurring conditions.

With grant funding, AHCCCS has acquired an online platform for providers to have access to the ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> assessment tool. This online platform developed by FEI Systems is called AZ WITS. Access to ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> through AZ WITS is intended to assist contracted providers who do not already have electronic access. AHCCCS is offering providers access to the assessment tool without the additional cost of modifying their Electronic Health Record (EHR) system. However, individual providers must purchase the usage subscription from FEI Systems for access to the assessment tool through AZ WITS.

**ASAM is providing discounted subscription rates to AHCCCS providers who utilize the AZ WITS platform.** Discounted rates depicted in the table below will be available for three years:

Tier Description	Subscription Full Price	Discount	Subscription Cost with Discount
Purchase <i>within 30 days</i> of training	\$840 per person per year	50%	\$420 per person per year
Purchase <i>more than 30 days after</i> training	\$840 per person per year	40%	\$504 per person per year

**AHCCCS is providing an additional reimbursement amount of \$28.30 for each ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> assessment utilizing the U9 modifier with the following procedure codes H0001, H0031, 90791, and 90792.** Providers that have integrated the assessment tool into their EHR system can utilize the U9 modifier but will not receive a subscription discount from ASAM.

The AZ WITS platform will be available beginning Fall 2019. AHCCCS will be providing three (3) in-person trainings during September with an option to attend via WebEx. One training session will be recorded and posted for additional access after the September trainings. Providers, agency administrators and support staff must complete one training prior to purchasing the AZ WITS ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> subscription.

The Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) identified champion providers throughout the state that will begin using AZ WITS in the Fall. However other interested providers are eligible to attend a training session and implement the ASAM CONTINUUM<sup>®</sup> assessment tool.

AHCCCS will be providing additional training opportunities during Winter 2019, and additional details will be sent at a later date. The Contractor is responsible for ongoing education to providers that may need assistance utilizing the tool and the related components. AHCCCS will be available for programmatic technical assistance as needed.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Prole, Clinical Project Manager at [lauren.prole@azahcccs.gov](mailto:lauren.prole@azahcccs.gov) or 602-417-4528.