

HRSN Nutrition Education Services Overview

Are you interested in becoming a health-related social needs (HRSN) nutrition education provider? This document will help you learn what the nutrition education benefit is and determine if you are a good fit to become a nutrition education provider.

What is HRSN nutrition education?

HRSN nutrition education is one of [several nutrition-related supports](#) available to eligible Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members. OHP is Oregon's public health plan (Medicaid).

The **HRSN nutrition education** benefit was designed for members and their nutrition education providers to work together, either one-on-one or in a group setting, to make healthier food choices and improve their nutrition habits. Nutrition education may be provided in person, by phone, or over video call.

Who is eligible to get HRSN nutrition education services?

HRSN nutrition education services are available to eligible OHP members in an HRSN covered population. You can find the HRSN eligibility criteria in this [nutrition fact sheet](#).

Who can provide HRSN nutrition education?

To provide HRSN nutrition education, you must:

- Be interested in providing nutrition education to eligible OHP members and billing Medicaid through the Oregon Health Authority and/or coordinated care organizations (CCOs).
- Enroll as an HRSN service provider with either [OHA](#) or a local [CCO](#).
- Use a nutrition education curriculum that is evidence-based.

- Have qualified staff to deliver the nutrition education in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) [410-120-2030](#). This can include trained paraprofessionals or traditional health workers (THWs).

What nutrition education curriculum qualifies?

Nutrition education should:

- Be provided in accordance with evidence-based nutrition guidelines
- Be an evidence-based nutrition curriculum that is supported by research, real-world practice, or promising community-led approaches that show potential for positive impact (for example, [re-aim.org](#))
- Follow food safety standards (like [OHA Food Safety](#))
- Be person-centered, consider dietary preferences, and be culturally appropriate.
- Fit the needs of the members you plan to serve
- Be a good fit for your organization

The requirements for HRSN nutrition education also be found in [OAR 410-120-2005](#).

We also encourage you to use following questions (adapted from the RE-AIM framework) to think through whether your nutrition education curriculum is a good fit.

Questions to consider as you review your curriculum:

- Does your curriculum align with the needs of the [HRSN covered population](#)?
 - If not, can your curriculum be adapted to meet the needs of the HRSN covered population?
- Do you evaluate the short- and long-term effectiveness of your curriculum?
 - If not, do you have a plan for how you will evaluate the curriculum?
- Does your curriculum include connections to other supports in the community?
- How well does this curriculum fit with your organization's mission?
- What is your organization's sustainability plan for this curriculum?

Frequently asked questions about HRSN nutrition education

- **Question:** Our organization includes nutrition education flyers in our food boxes. Does that count?
 - **Answer:** No, the curriculum must include engagement either individually or in a group setting. This can be accomplished in person, by phone, or over video call depending on the member's needs.
- **Question:** Can HRSN cover The National Diabetes Prevention Program?
 - **Answer:** This program is already covered by regular Medicaid, so it can't be covered by HRSN.
- **Question:** Can non-accredited programs meet the qualifications for HRSN nutrition education?
 - **Answer:** Yes, if the program meets the requirements listed above for evidence-based nutrition curriculum, there is no accreditation requirement (programs like Cooking Matters could potentially meet the qualifications).
- **Question:** Can we provide nutrition education to an individual or to a group?
 - **Answer:** Yes, a member can participate individually or in a group setting. The same billing code is used for either delivery option and is tied to each eligible member participating in the service.

Does this sound like a good fit?

If your organization is ready to get started, you can begin by enrolling as an HRSN service provider with [Open Card](#), your [local coordinated care organization](#) (CCO), or both. Please note that enrollment as an Open Card HRSN service provider does not guarantee a contract with a CCO. You must contact each local CCO you want to work with to learn how to join their network

Find more information:

To learn more, visit the [HRSN nutrition services webpage](#).

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact Chelsea Egbert at chelsea.egbert@oha.oregon.gov or 503-945-5772 (voice and text). We accept all relay calls.

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