

Columbia Addictions Center does not directly take insurance or have contracts with managed care companies. Some of the reasons we do not take insurance are:

1. Insurers often impose pre-existing conditions clauses, which allow denial of health coverage because of a pre-existing medical condition, such as a mental illness, alcohol abuse, or drug dependence. How this often plays out is as follows: John Jones submits a claim to his insurance company for an expensive medical procedure he had. The insurance company denies the claim because they maintained that particular medical problem is associated with heavy alcohol use that he was in an alcohol counseling program as a young adult.
2. Burdensome requirements imposed by managed care companies on providers make it almost impossible for most substance abuse programs to get authorization to provide care. Furthermore, if authorization is given, the managed care company typically allows for only several “visits” at a time. The managed care company then wants to know every single confidential detail of the client’s life and why they are in counseling.
3. Even though medical and health records are “supposedly” confidential, many people have access to your medical records. One never knows when this can catch up with you.
4. There is a wide gap between the reimbursement rates by insurance companies and what it actually costs to deliver a service. Columbia Addictions center is not able to provide a quality programming by qualified staff with the rates that insurance companies pay.

We will, however, provide you with a statement that you can turn into your insurance company for reimbursement. To request this statement, please fill out the “Letters Needed” form (check the invoice box). There is no charge for this service. However, if your insurance company requires a detailed treatment plan we will bill you at the following rate:

*Option 1: You can be billed at the hourly rate of \$115.00 per hour.

*Option 2: The treatment plan can be filled out during your scheduled individual session. The treatment plan will take about 30 minutes to complete, so please notify your counselor upon making the appointment.