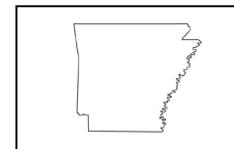


# Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

## Arkansas



Grade	Recommendations to Improve Patient Access
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove prior authorization for HCV treatment.</li> <li>Remove requirement that only hepatologists, gastroenterologists, infectious disease specialists, or physicians working directly under those providers may prescribe.</li> <li>Remove additional restrictions as described in report card.</li> </ul>

### State Overview

As of March 2025, 828,906 individuals were enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.<sup>1</sup> It is estimated that as of 2021, 21,800 people were living with HCV in Arkansas.<sup>2</sup> Over 95% of enrollees in Arkansas Medicaid receive care through fee-for-service or primary care case management programs (PCCM).<sup>3</sup> The remaining enrollees participate in the PASSE program, which involves state contracted MCOs for specific high-needs populations.<sup>4</sup> Arkansas Medicaid also funds ARHOME, a program that provides private coverage to eligible beneficiaries by paying the premium for qualified health plans.<sup>5</sup>

The Arkansas Medicaid Preferred Drug List designates Mavyret, sofosbuvir/velpatasvir, and Zepatier as preferred medications.<sup>6</sup>

Deductions		Policy
Prior Authorization	-8	Prior authorization is required for all HCV treatment regimens. <sup>7</sup>
Fibrosis Restrictions	0	Effective November 2023, Arkansas Medicaid does not impose fibrosis restrictions. <sup>8</sup>
Substance Use Restrictions	0	In 2024 Arkansas removed its substance use restriction <sup>9</sup>
Prescriber Restrictions	-8	Arkansas Medicaid imposes prescriber restrictions. "All PA requests must be from a hepatologist, gastroenterologist, infectious disease specialist, or a prescriber working under the direct supervision of one of these specialty physicians." <sup>10</sup>
Retreatment Restrictions	0	Arkansas does not impose retreatment restrictions. <sup>11</sup>
Access in Managed Care	0	The PASSE program imposes the same requirements as FFS. <sup>12</sup>
Additional Restrictions	-4	Arkansas Medicaid imposes additional restrictions as follows <sup>13</sup> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation of genotype.</li> <li>Documentation of adherence assessment for continuation of treatment. "Adherence with prescribed therapy is a condition for payment of continuation therapy for up to the allowed timeframe for each HCV genotype. The recipient's Medicaid drug history will be reviewed prior to approval."</li> </ul>
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>Total Score [100-Deductions]</b> <b>80</b>
		<b>Grade</b> <b>B</b>

## Contact Your State Officials

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**Drug Review Committee<sup>15</sup>: Cindi Pearson, Chairperson, Arkansas Medicaid DUR Board**  
Donaghey Plaza South, P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-415, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437;  
Telephone: 501-683-4120; Email Address: [cinnamon.pearson@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:cinnamon.pearson@dhs.arkansas.gov)

## Key Sources

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**Preferred Drug List:** [Prime Therapeutics, Arkansas Medicaid Preferred Drug List \(July 1, 2025\).](#)

**Clinical Criteria:** [Arkansas Medicaid Prescription Drug Program, Prior Authorization Criteria \(July 1, 2025\).](#)

**Prior Authorization Form:** [Arkansas Medicaid Prescription Drug Program, Hepatitis C Virus \(HCV\) Medication Therapy Request Sheet \(June 2025\).](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Medicaid & CHIP in Arkansas, <https://perma.cc/RJC5-JLPR>.

<sup>2</sup> HepVu, Local Data: Arkansas, .

<sup>3</sup> KFF, Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems (2022), <https://perma.cc/EMN8-QR8B>

<sup>4</sup> Arkansas Department of Human Services, PASSE: Provider-led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity, <https://perma.cc/ZF9N-9H43>.

<sup>5</sup> Arkansas Department of Human Services, ARHOME, <https://perma.cc/2BQ8-DXCX>.

<sup>6</sup> Preferred Drug List.

<sup>7</sup> Prior Authorization Form.

<sup>8</sup> Prior Authorization Form.

<sup>9</sup> Hepatitis C State of Medicaid Access, Elimination of Sobriety Requirements and 1115 Waiver Approvals Signal Progress Toward Equitable HCV Treatment Access, Aug. 14, 2024, <https://perma.cc/FZ7A-3DK4>.

<sup>10</sup> Prior Authorization Form.

<sup>11</sup> Prior Authorization Form.

<sup>12</sup> Arkansas Department of Human Services, Beneficiary Support, Forms and Documents, <https://perma.cc/IY2B-5B4P>.

<sup>13</sup> Prior Authorization Form.

<sup>14</sup> State of Arkansas, Meet the Secretary, <https://perma.cc/JX2W-VET6>; Janet Mann has recently been appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services for Arkansas, but continues to lead Arkansas Medicaid until a replacement is found. <https://perma.cc/SPP3-I9NE>

<sup>15</sup> Arkansas Department of Human Services, Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board Bylaws, <https://perma.cc/W5YS-QPVP>.