

AHCIP Billing: After-Hours Codes

Quick Reference Guide

Understanding how to bill after-hours codes can be confusing. This guide provides key information and best practices to ensure correct billing of after-hours codes.

What are after-hours codes?

After-hours codes are codes billed in addition to patient visits to account for physicians working after-hours and/or travelling to a different location to care for a patient.

Some of these codes require a modifier to be billed alongside the after-hours code to indicate the timeframe the physician worked, and if it was a weekday or weekend.

After-Hours Codes

Fee Code	Description	Value
03.01AA	After-Hours Time Premium	\$0.00
03.03LA	Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department (weekdays 5:00pm-10:00pm, weekends and statutory holidays 7:00am-10:00pm)	\$116.29
03.03KA	Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department (any day between 7:00am-5:00pm)	\$77.53
03.03MD	Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department (any day between 12:00am-7:00am)	\$155.06
03.03MC	Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department (any day between 10:00pm-12:00am.)	\$155.06
03.05P	Special Callback to Inpatient (any weekday between 5:00pm-10:00pm)	\$113.38
03.05R	Special Callback to Inpatient (any weekday between 7:00am-10:00pm)	\$113.38
03.05N	Special Callback to Inpatient (any weekday between 7:00am-5:00pm)	\$75.59

We will cover the difference between these codes and their payment rules in detail on the following pages.

03.01AA - After-hours Time Premium

The After-Hours Time Premium can be billed in addition to other codes to account for working after-hours in a **hospital setting** – for example, a shift premium. To bill for this, you must bill the fee code 03.01AA with a modifier indicating the time of day you provided the service and the number of calls made (15 minutes per call). Keep in mind, 15 minutes equate to 1 unit. If a doctor spends 30 minutes with a patient, that is 2 units.

Payment Rules

There are 6 different modifiers:

Modifier Code	Time Description	Maximum Units of 15 Minutes Per Day	Value (per 15 min)
TEV	Monday-Friday: 5:00pm-10:00pm	20	\$22.79
TNTP	Any Day: 10:00pm-12:00am	8	\$45.55
TNTA	Any Day: 12:00am-7:00am	28	\$45.55
TWK	Weekend: 7:00am-10:00pm	60	\$22.79
TST	Stat Holidays: 7:00am-10:00pm	60	\$45.55
TDES	Designated stat holidays: 7:00am-10:00pm	60	\$22.79

Note: **03.01AA** is also billable in addition to other visits (during the same encounter) on the same date of service. A physician can bill a maximum of four (4) after-hours time premium modifiers per hour.

Example:

A doctor is working after-hours on a weekend in a hospital. At 7:00 pm, the doctor sees a patient with a leg injury. Due to the nature of the injury, the doctor performs a limited physical examination (appropriate to their specialty). The visit lasts **30** minutes. What would they bill?

Explanation:

The physician would bill **03.03AZ** based on the assessment of the patient. They would bill the after-hours time premium **03.01AA** with the modifier **TWK** as the patient encounter happened at 7:00 pm. For the units billed, the physician would choose **02** as the encounter was 30 minutes.

03.03KA- Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department AACC UCC, Auxiliary Hospital or Nursing home

03.03KA is billed when a physician has been specially called from home or office on weekdays between **7:00 am - 5:00 pm**.

03.03LA- Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department, AACC UCC, Auxiliary Hospital or Nursing home

03.03LA is billed when a physician has been specially called from home or office on weekdays from **5:00 pm - 10:00 pm**, and weekends and statutory holidays from **7:00 am - 10:00 pm**.

Payment Rules

For hospital emergency/outpatient department, AACC, UCC:

- The unscheduled service and special callback benefit must be claimed according to the time at which the encounter commences and not from the time of the call for attendance.
- A maximum of two (2) HSC 03.03MC, 03.05QA or any combination thereof may be claimed, per physician, any day (10:00 pm -12:00 am).

For auxiliary hospitals & nursing homes:

- Benefits for 03.03LA may only be claimed when the physician is requested to attend by the patient, the patient's relatives, or a health care provider of the facility involved in managing the patient's care.
- Benefits for 03.03LA are payable based on the time at which the encounter commences.
- The physician responds to such a call from outside the auxiliary hospital or nursing home on an unscheduled basis, and the patient is attended to on a priority basis.
- Special callback benefits (HSCs 03.05N, 03.05P, 03.05QA, 03.05QB, 03.05R) may also not be claimed.

03.03MC- Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department AACC UCC, Auxiliary Hospital or Nursing home

03.03MC is billed when a physician has been specially called from home or office, any day between **10:00 pm - 12:00 am**.

Payment Rules

- Same rules and requirements as 03.03LA
- A maximum of two (2) HSC 03.03MC, 03.05QA or any combination thereof may be claimed, per physician, any day (10:00 pm - 12:00 am).

03.03MD- Special Callback to Hospital Emergency/Outpatient Department AACC UCC, Auxiliary Hospital or Nursing home

03.03MD is billed when a physician has been specially called from home or office, any day between **12:00 am - 7:00 am**.

Payment Rules

- Same rules and requirements as 03.03LA
- A maximum of seven HSC 03.03MD, 03.05QB or any combination thereof may be claimed, per physician, any day (12:00 am – 7:00 am).

03.05R- Special Callback to Hospital Inpatient

03.05R is billed when a physician has been called from home or office on weekends between **7:00 am - 10:00 pm**.

Payment Rules

- May only be claimed when a special call for attendance is made on the patient's behalf.
- Benefits are payable based on the time at which the encounter commences.
- The physician responds to such a call from outside the hospital on an unscheduled basis.
- The patient is attended to on a priority basis and there is direct attendance by the physician.
- Second or subsequent patients seen during the same callback are not eligible for benefits under HSCs 03.05N, 03.05P, 03.05QA, 03.05QB or 03.05R but may be claimed using HSC 03.03AR.
- May not be claimed in association with any HSC except HSC 03.01AA or 03.03DF.

03.05N- Special Callback to Hospital Inpatient

03.05N is billed when a physician has been called from home or office, any weekday between **7:00 am - 5:00pm**.

03.05P- Special Callback to Hospital Inpatient

03.05P is billed when a physician has been called from home or office, any weekday between **5:00 pm - 10:00 pm**.

Note: The special call back codes can only be billed in conjunction with: 03.02A, 03.03A, 03.04A, 03.03AZ, 03.04AZ, 03.03B, 03.03BZ, 03.03DF, 03.03EA.

Example:

A doctor is called to the hospital emergency department on a weekday at 3:00 pm to see a patient with an injury. Due to the nature of their injury, the doctor performs a limited physical examination (appropriate to their specialty). What would they bill?

Explanation

The physician would bill **03.03AZ** based on the assessment performed on the patient. They would also bill the callback visit code **03.03KA**, as the special callback happened at 3:00 pm on a weekday.