

BlueCross Michigan (1/08)

<http://www.bcbsm.com/> (Link to site only)

- BMI 40 or greater OR BMI 35 or greater with co-morbid condition (degenerative joint disease, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, coronary artery disease, other atherosclerotic disease, Type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, congestive heart failure)
- The patient has been clinically evaluated by an MD or DO. The physician has documented failure of non-surgical management including a structured, professionally supervised (physician or non-physician) weight loss program for a minimum of 6 consecutive months within the last 4 years prior to the recommendation for bariatric surgery. The six consecutive month weight loss program listed above is waived for super morbidly obese individuals who have a BMI of 50 or greater. Documentation should include periodic weights, dietary therapy, physical exercise, and behavioral therapy, counseling and pharmacotherapy, as indicated.
- Ages of 18 to 60 (special conditions for below age 18 or above age 60)
- Psychological evaluation
- Documentation that PCP and patient understand the risks and reasonable expectations
- Gastric bypass, Lap-band and BPD/DS procedures are covered. Sleeve gastrectomy is indicated as a first stage procedure for super obese with BMI greater than 50
- Revision of previous weight loss surgery does not need above criteria, just proof of mechanical failure of previous surgery, date and type of previous procedure