

Chiles, Christie (DDC)

From: Taylor, Suzanne (HCA)
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 11:47 AM
To: Monts, Brandi (DDC)
Subject: School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) Links

Hi Brandi,
Sharing the links I mentioned at the meeting today. Share what you feel would be helpful. Thank you!!

In Washington, there are three avenues for local education agencies (LEAs) to receive Medicaid reimbursement for school-based services:

- School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) Program (IEP/IFSP services)
- Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) Program
- Medicaid Managed Care and/or Fee-for-service billing for non-IEP services

School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) Program

The Washington State School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) program is an optional Medicaid program administered by the Health Care Authority (HCA). The SBHS program reimburses contracted LEAs for Medicaid covered health related services provided to Medicaid eligible students. To receive Medicaid reimbursement through this program, services must be included in the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). School-based IEP/IFSP health related services are carved out of Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and are reimbursed fee-for-service (FFS). Information links regarding several SBHS program services are below: The SBHS Program contracts approximately 200 LEAs and serves about 19,000 students annually at an annual cost of approximately \$13 million.

SBHS Program [webpage](#) includes:

- [SBHS one-pager](#): Provides information about the SBHS Program. SBHS Program provides fee-for-service reimbursement for IEP/IFSP health related services. The most commonly billed services are OT, PT, & Speech.
 - A school district's participation in the SBHS Program does not impact services a child receives outside of school because Medicaid reimbursement for OT/PT/Speech is unlimited for children in WA.
 - In addition, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) at 1412(e) and 1440(c), as well as the Social Security Act at 1903(c), specify that a State cannot reduce or restrict payment for services provided to a child with a disability because services are also included in the child's IEP or IFSP.
- [List of SBHS contracted school districts](#): Provides list of districts, ESDs, and charter schools currently contracted with the SBHS program.
- [Medicaid School-Based Services and Supports](#): Provides information about the three Medicaid reimbursement options for schools.

Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) Program

MAC is an optional Medicaid program that allows LEAs to receive federal reimbursement for administrative activities performed by school staff that support the goals of the Medicaid State Plan. Examples of eligible activities include outreach and providing information about Medicaid programs and covered services to students and families, assisting individuals in applying for or accessing Medicaid-covered services, and referring students and families to health providers. School district staff participate in a quarterly Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) to determine the amount of time they spend performing eligible administrative activities. The RMTS assigns "moments" to participants throughout the quarter. The MAC Program contracts with 49 school districts, at an annual cost of approximately \$3.6 million.

Medicaid Administrative Billing (MAC) Program [webpage](#) includes:

- [MAC one-pager](#): Information about the MAC program, who can participate, activities that are “reimbursable”, etc.

Medicaid Managed Care/Fee-for-Service

LEAs can contract with the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) or with HCA directly (for FFS billing) to receive Medicaid reimbursement for non-IEP/non-IFSP healthcare related services provided in the school setting. The [Medicaid School Based Behavioral Health Services & Billing Toolkit](#) provides information on how schools can become a licensed behavioral health agency (BHA) and information on how to contract with the MCOs to receive reimbursement for BH Services. Schools can also contract with the MCOs to receive reimbursement for non-BH, non-IEP services. Any questions about impacts to Medicaid limits/benefits if a school bills MCOs for school-based services is outside the scope of the SBHS Program.

If a school is a BHA and is contracting with the MCOs, and has questions around limits/benefits, the school can connect to the MCO directly. In general, a BHA would follow Mental Health Part 2 or the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) billing guides, if licensed as a behavioral health agency:

[Provider billing guides and fee schedules | Washington State Health Care Authority](#)

School BHA licensing:

If a school is interested in becoming a licensed BHA for FFS, the following link has more information:

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers-partners/become-apple-health-provider/become-behavioral-health-provider>

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