



# MEDICAID

## Certified School Match Program

### *Reimbursement for School-based Services*

#### **What is the Medicaid Certified School Match program?**

- This federal program was designed to enable Medicaid and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to be used together to meet the educational and health-related needs of children with disabilities.
- This reimbursement program for school-based services is NOT one of the minimum covered services for managed care plans serving Medicaid enrollees and WILL NOT affect a child's allotment of Medicaid benefits. Services under the Certified School Match program are reimbursed under a fee-for-service arrangement. See Medicaid Policy, Florida Medicaid's Covered Services at [www.ahca.my.florida.com](http://www.ahca.my.florida.com)

#### **Which students are eligible?**

Students who have Medicaid coverage and an Individual Educational Plan (IEP). The IEP must specifically describe the need for the service(s).

#### **Which services are approved by Medicaid for reimbursement?**

Services which are medically necessary, educationally relevant and needed to assist an eligible student with an exceptional-ity to benefit from Exceptional Student Education (ESE). Medicaid reimburses school districts a percentage of the costs for these related services provided to ESE students:

- › behavioral health services
- › nursing services
- › occupational therapy
- › physical therapy
- › speech/language therapy
- › specialized transportation services (transportation that requires special equipment, nurse/attendant, or medical or behavioral condition requiring supervision)

#### **How are the reimbursement funds used?**

Medicaid reimbursement provides an extra source of funds to schools which can be used in areas of greatest need, including school nurses, student health-care needs, clinic supplies, ESE supplies, etc.

#### **Are parents charged for these services?**

- No! Parents/recipients are never "billed" for school-based services; however, parents may receive an explanation of benefits from Medicaid showing dates and services for which the school district has filed and received reimbursement.
- It is important to remember that needed services are always provided free of charge to ALL students, regardless of Medicaid-eligibility status.

#### **Does the school district need parent consent to release a student's information for Medicaid reimbursement purposes?**

Yes! During the annual IEP meeting, parents are given an opportunity to consent or decline the release of a student's information for Medicaid verification and reimbursement purposes. Parents may submit a written request at any time to either allow or withdraw consent for the release of a student's information for Medicaid purposes.

**For more information please contact Toni Dendler, Medicaid Specialist**  
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