



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

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 Roslyn Hopkins, Medicaid Specialist
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