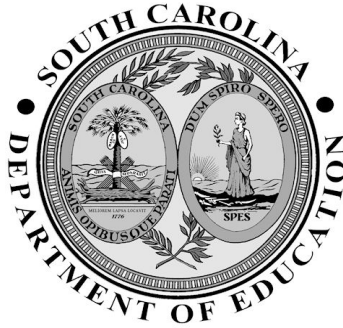


**February 2021**



**<https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/medicaid/>**

### **Provider Relief Funds (PRF)**

Many school districts applied and received Provider Relief Funds distributed by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) through the CARES Act PRF program. Districts that received these funds agreed to Terms & Conditions, which require compliance with reporting requirements as specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Provider Relief Fund (PRF) recipients who received one or more payments exceeding \$10,000 are required to report as part of the post-payment reporting process.

The **key dates** and the actions required are as follows:

- **Jan. 15, 2021:** reporting portal opens for providers
- **Feb. 15, 2021:** first reporting deadline for all providers on use of PRF funds
- **July 31, 2021:** final reporting deadline for providers who will not fully expend PRF fund prior to December 31, 2020

The Summary of Reporting Requirements and Post-Payment Notice of Reporting Requirements documents were sent to districts via email on November 23, 2020 for guidance regarding the data that must be reported. On January 15, 2021 an updated Post-Payment Notice of Reporting Requirements document was released by HRSA which was been submitted to districts via email. Please review this updated document for guidance if you have not already completed reporting for your district.

HRSA plans to offer Question & Answer Sessions via webinar in advance of the reporting deadline, and as needed. HRSA will also issue Frequently Asked Questions to aid in the reporting process. Please be sure to review all emails and notifications sent from HRSA. Also, be sure to review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at Health and Human Services' (HHS) CARES Act Provider Relief Funds webpage.

Please keep in mind that the recipients of Provider Relief Fund payments may be subject to auditing to ensure the accuracy of the data submitted to HHS for payment. Each applicable district must maintain appropriate records and cost documentation including, as applicable, documentation described in 45 CFR § 75.302 – Financial management and 45 CFR § 75.361 through 75.365 – Record Retention and Access, and other information required by future program instructions to substantiate that Provider Relief Fund payments were utilized appropriately.

Please be sure to review the [Terms and Conditions](#) and the [Reporting Requirements and Auditing FAQs](#).

For additional assistance, please call the provider support line at (866) 569-3522; for TTY dial 711. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.

## **Referrals by Occupational Therapists**

On January 25, 2021 the Office of Medicaid Services (OMS) released a letter to the districts informing the districts that effective February 1, 2021, an occupational therapist (OT) may complete a referral for occupational therapy services. The updated LPHA referral chart is available on the OMS webpage at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/medicaid/medicaid-program-quality-assurance/school-based-rehabilitative-services/school-based-rehabilitative-services/forms/lpha-referrals-for-school-based-rehabilitative-services-sbrs/>

OTs should review and must comply with all policies within the Local Education Agency (LEA) Provider Manual. Additionally, OTs must comply with all requirements of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act and the Occupational Therapy Regulations, Chapter 94. Access to the LEA Provider Manual is available at the 'DHHS Link' located under the 'Additional Resources' tab on the OMS webpage at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/medicaid/medicaid-program-quality-assurance/additional-resources/additional-resources/dhhs-links/>. The Occupational Therapy Practice Act and Occupational Therapy Regulations, Chapter 94 can be found on the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) website at <https://www.llr.sc.gov/ot/>.

## **Quality Assurance Reviews**

OMS is working diligently to complete the quality assurance reviews for the selected school districts. It is imperative that the selected school districts submit all documentation prior to the date of the scheduled review. At least 30 days prior to the review date, Education Associates send each school district the names and recipient identification numbers of the students and services that will be reviewed; additionally, school districts receive the appropriate checklists, a notification letter and the QA Preparations checklist to assist in preparing for the review. Please ensure that you review the documents thoroughly so that you understand the process, requirements, and meet the deadline for submission.

## **Post Quality Assurance Review Training- Delayed**

The completion of quality assurance reviews has been delayed due to the delays in receiving documentation from school districts. As a result, post quality assurance training has been delayed. All districts reviewed will receive service specific training relative to the findings/deficiencies of their review. Districts will receive notification of the date and time of the trainings and are expected to participate. Please follow-up with your district's assigned Education Associate if you have questions and/or concerns.

## **Medicaid Contracts- Contact Information Request**

Many districts received an email from OMS staff, Matthew Melton on Friday, January 22, 2021 requesting that you fill-in an Excel file with your district's contact information. This

information will be used by SCDHHS to send out Medicaid contracts as SCDHHS has found that the contact information for many of the districts is out-of-date, resulting in some districts not having received their contract(s). If you have not done so, please complete this Excel file and return it to Mr. Melton by close of business February 5th. If you have any questions, he can be reached at (803) 734-2108 or via email at [mmelton@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mmelton@ed.sc.gov).

### **MCO Acquisition- For Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Service (RBHS) Providers**

On January 7, 2021, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services released an alert which states that on Jan. 23, 2020, Centene Corporation (i.e., Absolute Total Care) acquired/bought-out WellCare Health Plans, Inc. (i.e., WellCare of South Carolina), both managed care organizations (MCO) contracted with the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS).

**Effective April 1, 2021**, (i.e., approximately 3 months away) students who are existing WellCare Medicaid members will become Absolute Total Care (ATC) members and will be served by Absolute Total Care. Therefore, all claims for all services rendered on or after April 1, 2021 must be submitted to ATC. Please move forward with identifying the students within your district who are enrolled WellCare Medicaid members as they will be transitioning to ATC on April 1st and you will be required to bill ATC for services rendered to these students.

WellCare will remain responsible for claims, appeals and hearings, and other administrative processes that occur **prior to April 1, 2021**. WellCare will keep their administrative processes in place for at least 12 months (i.e., April 1, 2022) to fulfill Medicaid requirements (i.e., Medicaid providers have up to one year from the date of service to submit a claim). This means that your district must submit claims for all services rendered **prior to April 1, 2021** to WellCare and will still have 365 days to submit claims to WellCare for services rendered **prior to April 1, 2021**. I encourage districts to submit claims for services rendered as soon as possible after the service is provided.

All Healthy Connections members transferred to Absolute Total Care on April 1, 2021, will maintain a continuity of care period for up to 90 days. This means that on April 1, 2021, any active service authorizations previously approved by WellCare will remain valid and students can continue to receive those services for up to 90 days or until the authorization expires (whichever comes first).

WellCare has informed the OMS that the acquisition will not require districts to enroll with ATC, if the district is not currently enrolled with ATC. All districts will automatically be transitioned/enrolled with ATC.

If you have questions about how this acquisition may affect your specific district, please call WellCare Provider Services at (888) 588-9842 or Absolute Total Care Provider Services at (866) 433-6041 as the South Carolina Department of Education is not privileged to district specific information.

### **MCO Expansion- For RBHS Providers**

SCDHHS is adding an additional managed care organization (MCO) to serve Healthy Connections Medicaid members. Humana will be contracting with SCDHHS beginning July 1, 2021. Providers should expect to receive correspondence from Humana as they begin contracting with providers and continue to develop their provider network.

As more information is made available by SCDHHS, the OMS will communicate the impact to the school districts.

## **90 Day Progress Summary**

At this time, the OMS **has not** received approval/guidance from SCDHHS regarding the 90-day progress summary being completed every 9-weeks instead of every 90 days. Until SCDHHS has instructed otherwise, districts must stay the course and continue completing both the 90-day summary and 9-week summary.

This item remains high on the OMS' list of priorities. As soon as the OMS receives guidance/approval from SCDHHS, the approval will be communicated to all school districts immediately.

## **District & Entity Information Management Application**

The Office of Medicaid Services utilizes the District and Entity Information Management System (DEIMS) for official district contact or program liaison list(s). The DEIMS eliminates the need for multiple SCDE offices to request lists of district contacts for a variety of topics and programs. The district is responsible for updating the information in DEIMS at the beginning of each new school year and throughout the school year as needed. Please ensure that your district's contact information for program leads (Medicaid Coordinator, SDAC Coordinator, SNT Coordinator, etc.) are updated in DEIMS by contacting your Web Access Coordinator.

## **Special Needs Transportation (SNT)**

### Ridership Updates

Please make sure to update (click/unclick) ridership attendance on the SCDE website on a weekly basis. The OMS has begun review of the ridership attendance and will be providing feedback to districts as needed.

### GPS Software

The South Carolina Department of Education's Office of Transportation secured new statewide GPS routing software from Tyler Technologies which will impact SNT. Tyler Drive is the portion of the software that directly impacts SNT. The first district began training to utilize Tyler Drive in January 2021. As training is scheduled for additional districts, the Special Needs Transportation Coordinator will be informed. Specialized training on the process will be provided by both Tyler Technologies and SCDE.

If your district does not participate in the SNT program but would like to or if you have any questions/concerns regarding the SNT program, please contact Ronette Weeks by phone at 803-734-3913 or via email at [rmweeks@ed.sc.gov](mailto:rmweeks@ed.sc.gov).

## **School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)**

If you have not done so already, please begin entering the financial data for your district for the OND quarter so that your SDAC invoice can be generated. If you have any questions regarding the information that needs to be entered or if you need access to the

SDAC Application, please contact Matthew Melton via email at [mmelton@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mmelton@ed.sc.gov) or by phone at (803) 734-2108.

## **Tell Us**

What topics would you like us to address in the monthly newsletter. It is our goal to support our school districts and give them all the information that they need in order to be successful in billing and providing Medicaid Services. Send all topics to our office email address [MedicaidServices@ed.sc.gov](mailto:MedicaidServices@ed.sc.gov).