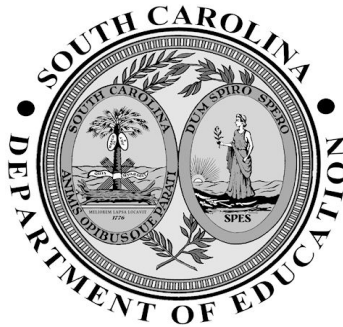


December 2022



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

Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS) Updates

SC School Behavioral Health Academy (SBHA)

The University of South Carolina Department of Psychology, in partnership with the SC Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has announced the launch of the John H. Magill [SC School Behavioral Health Academy \(SBHA\)](#). The SC SBHA is designed to support school districts as they strengthen mental health services to students using a multi-tiered systems approach. Through a mix of online instruction and in-person coaching, the SC SBHA will assist school districts in responding to the child and adolescent mental health crisis by adopting practical, science-based approaches to improving mental health for all students.

Implementation Plans

Implementation plans were due to SCDHHS on August 12, 2022. The initial implementation plan should reflect the most accurate course of action planned to be carried out by the school district. School districts may submit updated implementation plans to SCDHHS (if needed), but **quarterly updates are no longer required**.

Unique School Identification (ID) Number

Please ensure that school based mental health claims submitted to SCDHHS include the district's unique school ID number as stated within the SCDHHS' [provider alert](#) released on July 21, 2022. The unique school ID **must** be placed on each claim. The location of the unique school ID # on the claim is dependent upon the type of claim that is submitted.

- **For Paper Claims:** Utilize Box 19 on the CMS 1500 Claims Form.
- **For Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Claims:** Utilize Loop 2300 NTE Segment.
- **For Web Tool Claims:** Utilize the "MHN Referral Number" field in the web tool.

Please review the provider alert in its entirety as there are important reminders and resources that will be useful to each school district.

SCDHHS' School-based Mental Health Services Website

Please be sure to visit the [SCDHHS' school-based mental health services website](#) as there are many resources to support school districts in providing RBHS. The resources available include the [updated Local Education Agencies \(LEA\) provider manual](#), [alternative fee schedule](#), [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) document, implementation plan template, etc. Please follow-up with your district's assigned EA if you have any questions and/or concerns after reviewing the website's resources.

Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

Enrollment

Currently there are five MCOs (i.e., Absolute Total Care, Healthy Blue, Humana Healthy Horizons, Molina, and Select Health) to which districts may need to enroll with to receive prior authorization and reimbursement for RBHS/school based mental health services when the student's care is managed by the MCO. Claims for students whose care is managed by a MCO must be submitted to the MCO, not SCDHHS. If a student's care is managed by an MCO, the only way that the district or subcontractor will receive reimbursement for RBHS rendered to the child is if the district is enrolled with the MCO. RBHS claims are submitted to SCDHHS only if the student is not enrolled in an MCO. Districts can identify if a child is enrolled in a MCO by utilizing the [SC Medicaid Web Portal](#). Please remember that if a student's care is managed by an MCO, the district must be enrolled with the MCO and seek reimbursement for RBHS via the MCO.

MCO Assistance & Guidance Documents

The OMS webpage includes a [MCO Contact List](#) that will assist you in identifying key contacts within each MCO. The OMS' webpage also includes a [MCO Prior Authorization Guidance Sheet](#) which will assist you in identifying key information with regard to the prior authorization process and procedures. Please review both documents and follow-up with your district's assigned EA should you have any questions and/or concerns.

Quality Assurance (QA)

QA Review Trends

Below are common findings/deficiencies that have been frequently cited during last month's QA reviews. These areas of concern must meet Medicaid policy requirements as reflected below.

- **Nursing Services:** The Individualized Health Plan (IHP) must be completed for all students with health conditions requiring treatments (e.g., feeding tubes), medical procedures (e.g., debridement of a wound), medications, and/or monitoring that must be performed by school personnel. Please refer to the [Individualized Treatment Plan \(ITP\) & Individualized Healthcare Plan \(IHP\) Crosswalk](#) document for guidance on the specific components that must be included in the IHP/ITP.
- **Speech Evaluations/Reevaluations:** The evaluations/reevaluations should not include tests or measures described as "teacher-made" or "informal" as these are not acceptable for purposes of Medicaid reimbursement.
- **Clinical Service Notes (CSNs):** CSNs must include a description of the activities that take place during treatment and document the student's participation and response to treatment in addition to all other required components.
- **Progress Summary Notes:** The progress summary notes must be completed at least every 90 days and include all required components (i.e., student's attendance, progress towards treatment goals, establish the continued/discontinued need for treatment, and be signed and/or co-signed, titled and dated by the therapist).

- Third-Party Liability (TPL): If the Eligibility Verification document identifies a third-party insurer the student's record must include an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) to reflect payment or denial or the student's record must include a TPL letter which states that the third-party insurer does not cover the service.

Please review the [SCDHHS LEA Manual](#) and the [SBRs trainings](#) posted on the OMS webpage to ensure compliance with documentation requirements. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned Education Associate (EA).

Occupational Therapy (OT) Telehealth Flexibilities

On October 4, 2022, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) announced [updated guidance](#) to extend telehealth flexibility for one year after the expiration of the current federal public health emergency (PHE). This extension only pertains to individual OT services, not group services.

Speech Reevaluation(s) and Individualized Education Program (IEP)

On October 21, 2022, a memorandum was released to all school districts regarding [speech services](#). Speech reevaluations completed by the Speech Language Therapist (SLT) must be co-signed by the licensed SLP. Secondly, the IEP signed by an SLT must be co-signed by a licensed SLP, effective November 1, 2022.

Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

Orientation and Mobility (O&M) is not subject to third-party liability (TPL) policy. Therefore, school districts are not required to bill third party insurance companies and should continue to bill the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS).

Nursing Services Updates

On October 21, 2022, a memorandum was released to all school districts from the OMS regarding [Nursing Services](#). SCDHHS will no longer require the supervising RN to co-sign every clinical service note (CSN), effective immediately.

Though the co-signature of the RN is not required, the documentation requirements for the CSNs has not changed. Please review the LEA Services Provider Manual to ensure compliance with all documentation requirements. Nurses must comply with all SCLLR supervisory requirements. SCDHHS requires proof of supervision of the LPN by the RN at a minimum of every 60 days. Supervision of the LPN must be documented no matter if the supervision is carried out by direct observation or review of CSNs. Documentation of supervision provides proof of compliance with Medicaid policy.

The OMS' October 21, 2022, memorandum also stated that the IHP will be included in the LEA Provider Manual as an acceptable plan to which allowable nursing services will be reimbursed by Medicaid, when included on the IHP and all other requirements (i.e., documentation, staff qualification, etc.) are met. The Individualized Health Plan (IHP)/Individualized Treatment Plan (ITP) must continue to be written by a Registered Nurse (RN). However, SCDHHS allows the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to make updates. The Registered Nurse (RN) supervisor must co-sign the updated IHP/ITP.

Finance

Second Quarter SDAC Expenses

The updated [SDAC Finance Training](#) has been posted to the OMS webpage. The training provides information specific to the finance process and funding quarters. Please review all information, particularly the information specific to the second quarter (i.e., October, November, December – OND) to ensure that all required information for the second quarter is completed/entered appropriately and SCDE is notified upon completion so that the district's invoice is generated.

Please review the [SDAC calendar](#) on the OMS webpage to identify dates and deadlines of activities that are to be carried out each quarter. Information specific to sampling quarters and survey dates is available on the SDAC calendar. Additionally, find excluded survey dates (i.e., dates staff will not receive surveys) on the SDAC calendar.

Budget Increase Request

Districts should track SDAC budgets throughout the academic year and if needed, a budget increase can be requested of South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS). SDAC invoices through July, August, September – JAS 22 have been completed and districts now have two (2) years and three (3) months (i.e., nine (9) quarters) of actual expense to compare to their budgets for the remaining quarters. To request a budget increase, you will need to complete and submit the [SDAC Contract Budget Amendment Request](#) form. The form is located on the OMS webpage. To request a copy of the form in Word format, send an email to omccclary@ed.sc.gov or cfields@ed.sc.gov.

Any budget increase requests needed for FY23 will need to be submitted to SCDHHS by February 28, 2023. Please carbon copy Fiscal Managers, Ophelia McClary at omccclary@ed.sc.gov and Celina Fields at cfields@ed.sc.gov on all requests.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

SDAC Quarter Samples

The samples for the second quarter (October, November, December – OND 22) were generated on September 29, 2022. The sample dates range from October 3, 2022, through December 16, 2022. District SDAC Coordinators should ensure that samples are completed by the participant and submit/return the completed samples daily.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

New Application

The SNT application is not operating at full capacity at this time, but some strides have been made by the SCDE's technology staff. District's SNT Coordinators may now enter the bus information under the "Bus Management" tab and the driver information under the "Driver Assignment" tab in the new SNT application. You are encouraged to begin entering this information as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, student information still shouldn't be entered at this time. The OMS will advise districts when to begin entering student information. Please do not add any student information until advised by the OMS.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov.

Quarterly & Bi-Monthly Meetings

Quarterly QA School District Meeting/Training

The OMS QA team looks forward to continuing to work alongside districts and ensuring that districts receive the assistance and guidance needed. The next QA quarterly meetings will be held on December 8, 2022. There will be two sessions available for districts to attend. During the quarterly meetings, we will conduct an Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Training. Meeting invitations will be sent to district Medicaid Coordinators, RBHS Coordinators, and Special Education Directors.

The quarterly meetings are open to all LEA service providers and administrators (e.g., Speech Language Pathologists (SLP), Occupational Therapists (OT), Physical Therapists (PT), nurses, Medicaid Coordinators, Medicaid Billing Clerks, etc.). Any district staff deemed appropriate by the district are welcome to attend. Please submit questions and topics that you would like to be discussed prior to the scheduled meeting. Your questions and suggestions must be submitted to your district's assigned EA or the OMS at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov prior to the scheduled meeting.

Bi-Monthly SDAC Meeting

The next bi-monthly SDAC meeting will be held on December 13, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. If there are specific questions or topics that you would like to be discussed, please send them to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov by December 12, 2022.

A Microsoft Teams invitation will be sent to Medicaid and SDAC Coordinators two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. Coordinators may forward the meeting invitation to other persons within their district as they see fit.

Bi-Monthly Special Needs Transportation (SNT) Meeting

The next bi-monthly meeting will be held on December 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If there are specific questions or topics that you would like to be discussed, please send them to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov by December 12, 2022.

A Microsoft Teams invitation will be sent to the Medicaid and SNT Coordinators two weeks in advance of the meeting. Coordinators may forward the meeting invitation to other persons within their district as they see fit.

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 to be successful in billing and providing Medicaid Services. Send all topics to our office email address MedicaidServices@ed.sc.gov.