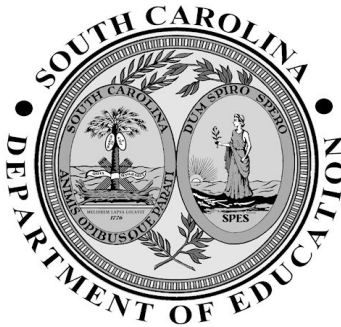


October 2022



<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.

SC SBHA courses will be available to counselors, teachers, administrators, and other staff to support student mental health. There will be an informational meeting held on October 17, 2022, at 11a.m. For more information, please review the "[New Opportunity to Support School Mental Health Efforts](#)" memo released by the South Carolina Department of Education on September 27, 2022.

Implementation Plans

Implementation plans were due to SCDHHS on August 12, 2022. If your district has not submitted an implementation plan to SCDHHS, please do so as soon as possible. Please review the "Instructions" tab/sheet of the Excel spreadsheet before you begin to complete the plan. Additionally, review the "Glossary" tab/sheet to identify the information that is needed within each field of the "District Info" and "School Info" tabs/sheets before you begin to complete the plan.

The implementation plan should reflect how your district intends to implement RBHS. The implementation plan does not have to be definite as SCDHHS understands that plans are subject to change. However, the spreadsheet should reflect the most accurate course of action planned to be carried out by the school district. School districts will have the opportunity to update implementation plans (if needed).

School Based Services Fee Schedule/Rates

The SCDHHS has released the [school-based fee schedule](#). School districts will be reimbursed at the rates listed on the fee schedule once the school district's RBHS contract is signed and returned to Medicaid (deadline July 8, 2022). Subcontractors selected by school districts to render services (i.e., the South Carolina Department of Mental Health clinic or community/private providers) will be reimbursed at the rates listed within the fee schedule also, but only after the school district has returned the signed RBHS contract to SCDHHS and has executed a subcontract with the chosen subcontractor. The subcontractor will need to present the subcontract to SCDHHS before the subcontractor can bill Medicaid for services rendered or be reimbursed by Medicaid.

Reimbursement for RBHS

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has notified the Office of Medicaid Services (OMS) that all school districts can begin submitting claims to SCDHHS for RBHS rendered. Recall SCDHHS' request (shared by the OMS via email and newsletter) for school districts to refrain from billing for RBHS while the SCDHHS conduct claim testing to ensure that school districts were appropriately reimbursed for RBHS claims. Claims testing has been completed, and again, districts can begin billing for RBHS.

All RBHS rendered by school districts after July 1, 2022, will be reimbursed at the new, enhanced RBHS rates. If your school district submitted RBHS claims prior to today, September 1, 2022, for dates of service after July 1, 2022, please review the remittance advice to determine if services were reimbursed at the new, enhanced rate. If RBHS were reimbursed at the old rate for dates of service after July 1, 2022, please reach out to the OMS immediately for guidance.

Activation of the Newly Enhanced Rates

The SCDHHS must activate the newly enhanced rates within the Medicaid billing system for each provider (i.e., school district, SCDMH, private/community provider) to receive reimbursement at the newly enhanced rate for RBHS rendered. The newly enhanced rates are not automatically activated for each school district or subcontractor. Activation must be completed manually by SCDHHS for each provider. SCDHHS will apply the new enhanced rates for each provider based on the implementation plan submitted by the school district and the subcontracts submitted by the school district and/or subcontractor(s).

The enhanced rates will be activated for providers and reimbursed based on the following:

- If the school district's implementation plan states that the district will utilize direct hires to render services, the enhanced rates will be activated for the school district.
- If the school district's implementation plan states that the district will only utilize a subcontractor, the enhanced rates will be activated for the subcontractor, not the school district. Additionally, the subcontract must have been submitted to SCDHHS for the subcontractor to receive reimbursement.

- If the school district's implementation plan states that the district will utilize both direct hires and subcontractors, the enhanced rates will be activated for both the school district and subcontractors. Again, the subcontract must have been submitted to SCDHHS for the subcontractor to receive reimbursement.

Please review your district's implementation plan to ensure that you have accurately depicted how services will be implemented within your district. If you need to update your implementation plan, please reach out to the SCDHHS at behavioralhealth004@scdhhs.gov. Also, note that if your implementation plan changes (i.e., change, add, or terminate subcontractors, etc.) you will need to inform the SCDHHS so that the enhanced rate can be activated and/or deactivated, as applicable. The SCDHHS is the only entity that can activate the enhanced rates for school districts and subcontractors; so again, please reach out to SCDHHS if you need to update your implementation plan.

Unique School Identification (ID) Number

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) released a [provider alert](#) regarding RBHS/school-based mental health service claims. The alert states:

- Each school's South Carolina Department of Education's unique school ID must be included on all school based mental health service claims.
- The [list of unique school IDs](#) has been published on SCDHHS' school-based mental health services [webpage](#).

As some students are transported to other schools for services, utilize the unique school ID of the school that the child is registered to attend (not the school that the child is being transported to for services).

The unique school ID must be placed on each RBHS 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.

The SCDHHS hosted RBHS training live on August 2, 2022. The training presentation is also available and can be accessed on SCDHHS' school-based mental health services website. Please follow-up with your district's assigned EA if you have any questions and/or concerns after reviewing the SCDHHS training.

SCDHHS Provider Trainings

On Friday, August 19, 2022 the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Service published a bulletin announcing [Upcoming Healthy Connections Medicaid Provider Trainings – Fall 2022](#). Training topics include Medicaid Basics, Comprehensive Web Tool and Overview of Claim-level Adjustments and TPL. To register for a workshop, please visit the Medicaid eLearning site, www.medicaidlearning.com, or call (888) 289-0709 and select option 1. Additional training resources for providers are also available online through the [Medicaid eLearning site](#).

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 a 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 Recredentialing

For the 12 districts that are currently undergoing MCO recredentialing please reach out to your assigned Education Associate (EA) to obtain your district's OMS letter for MCO recredentialing.

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 identify 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)

Upcoming Training

The OMS QA will be conducting training on Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. There will be two sessions 9:30-10:30 and 2:00-3:00. The invitation will be sent to the Medicaid Coordinator and Special Education Director. Please submit any questions or topic requests to Medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov by Wednesday, October 5, 2022.

QA Review Trends

The OMS QA review season has begun and below are common findings/deficiencies that have been cited. These areas of concern must meet Medicaid policy requirements as reflected below.

- Nursing Services: Clinical service notes (CSNs) must document the student's participation and response to treatment, and the criteria for achievement must be present on the Individualized Health Plan (IHP)/Individualized Treatment Plan (ITP).
- School-based Rehabilitative Services (SBRS): School districts must obtain a referral prior to the evaluation, Individualized Education Program (IEP), and first date of service.
- CSNs: Each CSN must be individualized and student specific. CSNs must include a description of the activities that take place during treatment and document the student's participation and response to treatment. Please review the [SCDHHS LEA Manual](#) and the [SBRS trainings](#) posted on the OMS Webpage to ensure compliance with documentation. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned Education Associate (EA). If you do not have an assigned EA submit any questions to the OMS at Medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

QA Checklists

The OMS QA checklists have been revised as of September 2022. If you have any questions about the revisions, please contact your district's assigned Education Associate (EA). If you have completed your ISA using the previous version of the checklists this will be accepted; however, for districts that have not completed their ISA please use the [current checklists](#) available on the OMS webpage. If your district does not have an assigned EA, please submit any questions that you may have to the OMS at Medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

TPL Letters

The OMS has uploaded 26 [TPL letters](#) to the OMS webpage for academic year (AY) 2022-2023. As additional letters are received, the letters will be posted to the OMS' webpage. Please review the OMS webpage regularly to identify if additional TPL letters have been added to the OMS webpage.

Finance

First 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 first quarter (i.e., July, August, September – JAS) to ensure that all required information for the first 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 carried out each quarter. Information specific to sampling quarters and survey dates are available on the SDAC calendar. Additionally, find omitted dated survey dates (i.e., dates to which staff will not receive surveys).

Please ensure that you are tracking your contracted SDAC budget throughout the academic year and if needed, a budget increase can be requested of SCDHHS. To request a budget increase, you will need to compete 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.

Any budget increase requests needed for FY23 and FY24 will need to be submitted to SCDHHS by February 28, 2023. Please carbon copy Fiscal Manager, Ophelia McClary at omccclary@ed.sc.gov on all requests.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

SDAC Quarter Samples

The samples for the first quarter (July, August, September – JAS 22) were generated on August 26, 2022. The sample dates ranged from August 29, 2022, through September 30, 2022. All first quarter samples must be completed by October 14, 2022. After October 14, 2022, any outstanding first quarter samples will be marked as incomplete. Incomplete samples reduce the district's completion rate and impact revenue/reimbursement for all districts.

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

As districts were previously informed, a new application is currently being developed for AY 2023. The implementation date for the new application is October 24, 2022. An in-depth application training will be held from October 24, 2022, until November 4, 2022. Invitations are forthcoming.

Please ensure that your drivers are tracking daily ridership attendance using the approved SCDE attendance paper log. If you are using a log other than the SCDE approved log, please send the district created log to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov for approval.

Quarterly & Bi-Monthly Meetings

Quarterly QA School District Meeting

Thank you to the school districts that attended the OMS QA team quarterly meetings on September 7 and 9, 2022. OMS would like to request school districts to continue to participate in this open forum and continue to ask questions. We look forward to continuing to work alongside districts and ensuring that districts receive the assistance and guidance needed. The next QA quarterly meetings will be scheduled for December 2022. 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. 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

Thanks to all districts for attending the SDAC Coordinator Training in August. The next bi-monthly SDAC meeting will be held in late October. A Microsoft Teams invitation will be sent to Medicaid and SDAC Coordinators two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Bi-Monthly Special Needs Transportation (SNT) Meeting

Mandatory user training for the new SNT application will be held in October 2022. There will be several opportunities to attend. A Microsoft Teams invitation will be sent to the SNT and Medicaid 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.