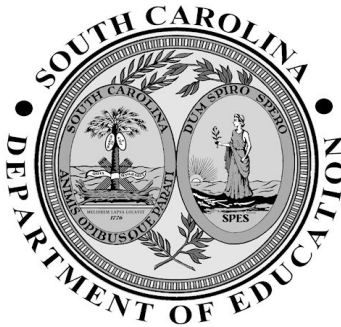


September 2022



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

Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS) Updates

Contracts & Service Delivery Options

RBHS contracts for those districts wishing to receive Medicaid reimbursement from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for services rendered by the district or the districts' subcontractors were due to the SCDHHS by July 8, 2022. Upon submission of the RBHS contract to the SCDHHS, the fully executed contract (i.e., contract reflects the appropriate signatures of district staff and SCDHHS staff) should have been returned to the school district. If the district submitted a contract to SCDHHS but has not received a fully executed contract from SCDHHS, please reach out to SCDHHS and/or the Office of Medicaid Services immediately at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

Any district that has not completed and returned the contract to SCDHHS but would like to do so must reach out to the SCDHHS immediately. The RBHS contract must be signed by school districts and returned to SCDHHS to participate and receive Medicaid reimbursement for applicable RBHS rendered. The RBHS contract must also be signed by school districts and returned to SCDHHS if the school district intends to subcontract with another entity to provide applicable RBHS and intends for the subcontractor to receive the enhanced rate for allowable RBHS rendered.

The signed contract gives districts the authority to receive Medicaid reimbursement for services rendered by the district or a district's selected subcontractor. By signing and returning the RBHS contract, it does not mean that the school district must begin providing or billing for services immediately, nor does it mean that your school district must have a fully executed plan to deliver services in place. Again, signing and submitting the contract to SCDHHS gives your district the authority to receive Medicaid reimbursement for services rendered by the district and/or the district's selected subcontractor.

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)

Team Expansion

The OMS will be expanding its QA team! The OMS QA team will consist of five (5) EAs. There are currently three (3) filled positions and an additional two staff will be onboarded. The expansion will allow the OMS to better serve districts via training, technical assistance, guidance, etc. as there will be less districts assigned to each EA and more time can be dedicated to each school districts' needs.

Quality Assurance Review Checklists

The [QA Review Checklists for 2022-2023](#) are now posted to the SCDE-OMS webpage. Please be sure to review the checklists and utilize the checklists for your district's internal self-assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your assigned EA.

School District Preparation Guide

The [School District Preparation Guide 22-23](#) is now posted to the SCDE-OMS webpage. Districts are encouraged to review the School District Preparation Guide prior to the scheduled QA review.

Districts' Internal Self-Assessment (ISA) Reviews

The Rehabilitative and Related Services contract between the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the school district requires every school district to conduct a self-assessment of each program area in association with the SCDE's annual QA review. The self-assessment must consist of the following components:

- random sampling of records to include as least one record for each SBRS and RBHS rendered by the district;
- examination of records related to SDAC and SNT;
- assessment of compliance with Medicaid standards, policies and procedures;
- evaluation of credentials of staff; and
- review of the Medicaid billing operation.

The results of the district's self-assessment must be captured in the "ISA" section of the QA application underneath "Discrepancies in Services and Billing". The school district may complete the ISA as soon as notification of the review date is received; however, the results of the self-assessment must be entered into the QA application at least two (2) weeks prior to the OMS' QA review date.

The checklist of the students that were reviewed for the ISA must be uploaded in the Doc Upload section of the QA application. When uploading the checklist, please select 2022-2023 as the review year and select "ISA Student Checklist" as the Document Type. Please review the [School District Preparation Guide 22-23](#) located on the OMS webpage for guidance specific to the ISA.

Onsite Reviews

- Please notify your EA if your district has restrictions or policy in place that prohibits or limits visitors as soon as possible.
- If your district's visitation protocol changes, please notify your EA as soon as possible so adjustments for the scheduled visit can be made in a timely manner.
- Please inform your assigned EA the method you plan to utilize to submit documentation for your scheduled QA review.
- Notify the Education Associate prior in advance (i.e., prior to onsite arrival) if access to WIFI and MIFI is not available to the EA.

TPL Letters

The OMS is in the process of obtaining the TPL letters for 2022-2023. Once received, all letters will be posted to the OMS' webpage. Districts will be notified when TPL letters are available on the OMS' webpage.

Finance

Fourth Quarter Invoice

OMS submitted a total of 83 SDAC invoices to SCDHHS for payment in the AMJ'22 quarter. The total revenue paid to districts for the AMJ'22 quarter was \$1,674,962.59. Please continue to submit your SDAC cost rosters in a timely manner so that OMS can generate an invoice for payment. Invoices submitted after the closeout date of the financial quarter will not be paid. The closeout date of each financial quarter is listed on the [SDAC Calendar](#) on the website. Please contact Ophelia McClary, Fiscal Manager with any questions you may have.

Fees

On April 1, 2022, your district received an invoice via email for the annual fee charged by SCDE for your district's participation in the Medicaid SDAC program. There are two remaining districts that have not submitted the SDAC payment. If your district has not done so already, please send the payment for the SDAC fee immediately.

Please refer to the Administrative Claiming Agreement between SCDE and your school district for details regarding the SDAC fee. If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out to Ophelia McClary at omccclary@ed.sc.gov.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

First Quarter Samples

The samples for the first quarter (July, August, September – JAS 22) were generated on August 26, 2022. The sample dates are August 29, 2022, through September 30, 2022. The first quarter's timeframe is shorter due to participants not being present for the summer; however, the number of samples will be the same as all other quarters. Make sure to keep up with sample approval daily. All first quarter samples must be completed by October 14, 2022.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

New Application

A new application is currently being developed for Academic Year 2023. Please make sure you are utilizing the SCDE approved paper logs to track attendance until the system is available. The target date for implementation has been delayed. has changed. The new targeted implementation date is October 17th. An in-depth training will be held in October. Invitations will be sent as soon as the application is ready.

Please ensure 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

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 meeting will be scheduled for September 7th and 9th. 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 your district's 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.