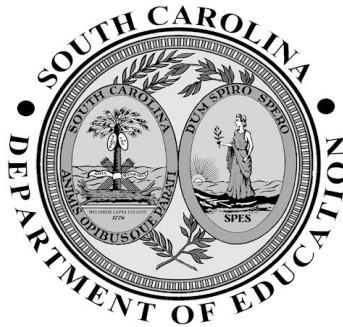


June 2023



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

Medicaid Updates

Telehealth Flexibilities

On Monday, May 8, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) released a [bulletin](#) announcing [policy clarifications and reminders related to end of COVID-19 Federal Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#) which ended on May 11, 2023. SCDHHS previously issued guidance via Medicaid bulletins announcing the future state of temporary policy changes that were created during the federal PHE (i.e., flexibilities were made permanent, will continue for one year post expiration of the federal PHE or expired upon the end of the federal PHE on May 11, 2023). Policy changes that were extended beyond May 11, 2023, have now been incorporated into their respective [provider manuals](#). This includes policy changes that are being made permanent and those that have been extended to May 11, 2024. SCDHHS will issue additional guidance on the flexibilities that have been extended for one year at a later time.

Please review the SCDHHS bulletin [23-018](#) in its entirety to ensure that you are in compliance with Medicaid's requirements. Please reach out to your district's assigned Education Associate should you have any questions and/or concerns.

Medicaid's Annual Eligibility Review Update - Press Release March 28, 2023

On March 28, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) issued a [press release](#) that provided additional information and guidance regarding the Medicaid eligibility review process that resumed on April 1, 2023. Please review the press release in its entirety. You are encouraged to inform families that the eligibility reviews are resuming and inform families of the options to return annual review forms and update information via the new [document update tool](#).

Medicaid's Annual Eligibility Reviews Resumed (Effective April 1, 2023)

On February 13, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) issued a [press release](#) which stated that Medicaid annual eligibility reviews will resume beginning April 1, 2023, after a federally mandated pause during COVID-19 public health emergency. The standard annual review process began on April 1, 2023, to which Medicaid members will begin receiving notices and review forms from the SCDHHS; however,

the entire review process may take as long as 12 months to which some Medicaid members will not receive notices or review forms until March 2024.

Why is this important and why should you care? Medicaid eligible students within your district are subject to annual review. If a student/family do not complete the appropriate forms or update appropriate Medicaid information as required, they may lose their Medicaid eligibility. This could be devastating and have a tremendous impact on students/families as they would no longer have healthcare coverage. This will also impact districts as districts will no longer be able to seek Medicaid reimbursement for services rendered to those previously qualified Medicaid eligible students.

I encourage you to share and notify the students, parents, and families within your district of the upcoming eligibility reviews that began on April 1, 2023. Your outreach could be the determining factor regarding the parents' and families' awareness of the upcoming eligibility review. Please remember that your outreach efforts and assistance with eligibility determination increases your district's chance of greater reimbursement for school district administrative claiming (SDAC) as outreach and eligibility determination activities (e.g., sending flyers) are reimbursable SDAC activities.

It is going to be more important than ever for districts to review and verify students' Medicaid eligibility regularly. Districts have always been encouraged to verify students' eligibility at least once per year, but eligibility checks may need to be conducted more frequently due to the upcoming annual eligibility reviews. Again, if students lose Medicaid eligibility, services rendered will no longer be Medicaid reimbursable (for dates of service after the eligibility termination date).

Please review the press release in its entirety. The press release includes helpful resources such as the link to the SCDHHS' Medicaid annual review web page (www.scdhhs.gov/annualreviews) and a link to the Annual Eligibility Review Update Fact Sheet. The SCDHHS will update the page with additional information as the annual review process begins.

Access and Reimbursement for Additional Speech Therapy Code (92526)

On February 16, 2023, the Office of Medicaid Services (OMS) released a memorandum which stated, "The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) speech therapy code, 92526 which is to be utilized for "the treatment of swallowing dysfunction and/or oral function for feeding" is available to school districts for Medicaid reimbursement when treatment is appropriately provided by school districts. The following applies to speech therapy code 92526:

- Frequency Limit: 1 encounter per day
- Rate: \$42.52 per encounter
- Staff Qualifications: Services must be provided by a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) or a Speech Language Pathologist- Intern (SLP-I) who is under the supervision of a SLP. Please ensure that you adhere to all licensing and training requirements set forth by the appropriate licensing and regulatory bodies/entities. Supervision and documentation requirements for speech therapy services has not changed.
- Method of Service: Medicaid only reimburses for the service when rendered in an individual setting. Medicaid does not reimburse for the service when provided in a group setting.

The fee schedule and Section 4 of the Local Education Agency Provider Manual will be updated to include this procedure code and all other relevant information. If you have questions, please contact Sylvia Tutt, Interim Director, Office of Medicaid Services, at srtutt@ed.sc.gov.

SCDHHS Provider Trainings

On Tuesday, April 25, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) published a [bulletin](#) announcing upcoming Healthy Connections Medicaid provider training opportunities that are available May 2023 – July 2023. 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.

Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS) Updates

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.

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.

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.

MCO Update

Absolute Total Care: School-Based Mental Health Service Billing Update

Effective April 1, 2023, Absolute Total Care is able to accept claims with the following modifiers for school-based mental health services for dates of service 7/1/2022 forward when submitted electronically, paper or via the secure provider portal:

- Modifier H1 (Licensed Clinician)- Licensed clinician refers to licensed or certified professionals allowed to practice at the independent level. This includes: LPC, LMFT, LISW, LPES, Certified School Psychologist II, and Certified School Psychologist III.
- Modifier H2 (Unlicensed Clinician)- Unlicensed clinician refers to those professionals who require supervision and co-signature on their Diagnostic Assessment (which is used to confirm medical necessity). This includes: LMSW, MHP, and Certified School Psychologist I.

Previously filed claims, that were rejected via electronic submission due to the inclusion of modifier H1 or H2, will need to be refiled for proper adjudication.

Absolute Total Care allowed a 60-day grace period, April 1 - June 1, 2023, for providers to update billing systems to appropriately bill school-based claims with the required modifiers going forward. Claims filed through June 1, 2023, were accepted without the H1 or H2 modifier and previous claims on file with Absolute Total Care that have processed without the H1 or H2 modifier did not need to be refiled for payment. All districts should have updated their billing systems to appropriately bill school-based claims with the required modifiers.

Please contact Wendy McCrea, Provider Network Specialist II, at Wendy.McCrea@centene.com for questions or if there are any concerns with the requirements stated above. Absolute Total Care is here to partner with you and assist with the transition to acceptance of the H1 and H2 modifier.

Quality Assurance (QA)

End of Review Year Closing

The QA Team would like to thank each district for their participation during the 2022-2023 review year. We look forward to continued collaboration! Please contact your Education Associate if there are any questions or concerns. Have a great summer!

District and Entity Information Management System (DEIMS)

Please ensure that your district's contact information for program leads (e.g., Medicaid Coordinator, SDAC Coordinator, SNT Coordinator, RBHS Coordinator, etc.) are updated in DEIMS. School districts are responsible for updating information in DEIMS at the beginning of each new school year and throughout the school year as needed. The DEIMS contact list is used for all communication. It is imperative that your district's contact list is up to date to ensure that your district receives all OMS information and communication. If you need assistance with updating your district's contact list, please contact your district's Web Access Coordinator.

Post QA Review Tasks

As of May 1, 2023, the OMS' quality assurance team has conducted all 2022-2023 school district QA reviews. If you have not already, please remember to:

1. submit your district's Internal Self-Assessment (ISA),
2. review your district's QA Follow-Up Report via the OMS' QA Application,
3. accept the final QA Follow-Up Report via the OMS' QA Application, and
4. submit a corrective action plan (CAP), if applicable, immediately.

Please reach out to your district's assigned EA or the OMS at medicaidservices.ed.sc.gov should you have any questions or need further assistance.

CAP Submission

Districts have seven days to accept the Follow-Up Report from the date of receipt. Once the district has accepted the follow-up report via the OMS QA application, the district must complete and submit a CAP to address the findings/deficiencies identified within the follow-up report. The district must carry out the following to successfully complete and submit the CAP:

- Once the Follow-Up Report is submitted by the EA, the district will have 30 days to submit a CAP.
- The district must review the Summary section tab of the CAP section within the OMS QA Application and then indicate in the "Response" field the action(s) that will be taken to address/correct each discrepancy and ensure the discrepancy is prevented in the future.
- The date of implementation must be entered and saved.
- Please ensure to enter comments in the "Comments" sub tab in the CAP section of the OMS QA Application and click save.
- Go to the Completion sub tab, click the check box in the yellow area.
- Click the green submit button to complete the process.

QA Opportunities for Improvement

Below are common findings/discrepancies that have been frequently identified during the 2022-2023 review year.

- Documentation Sequence: For Medicaid billing purposes, documentation must be completed in sequential order (i.e., first the referral, evaluation/reevaluation, and then the IEP).
- Signature Page: All documentation must include the signature page(s), to include the signature, title, and date.
- Individualized Education Program (IEP): The IEP goal(s) must specify the specific service (i.e., Occupational Therapy (OT)/Physical Therapy (PT)) when the area of need is identified as motor sensory/gross motor. OT/PT must be captured in the narrative box when writing the student's goal(s).
- Clinical Service Notes (CSNs): Please make sure the staff's title is included on the CSNs in addition to all other required components.
- The CSNs documentation must support the number of units billed.
- Progress Summary: The completion of the 90-day progress summary is not a reimbursable activity; therefore, no billed claim should include time spent completing a 90-day progress summary. Additionally, 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).

- Special Needs Transportation (SNT): All SNT logs must include the district's name, address, telephone number, driver's name, state bus number, district bus number, license tag number and the driver's signature.
- Error correction(s): Corrections must be made in accordance with the LEA manual policy and procedure requirements.

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 district's assigned Education Associate (EA) or the OMS at medicaidservices.ed.sc.gov.

Finance

SDAC Budgets for Fiscal Year 2024-2026

The current SCDHHS contracts for the purchase and provision of Medicaid Administrative Claiming Activities end June 30, 2023. The renewal process is underway. Contract renewals will be effective July 1, 2023 and will end on June 30, 2026. The current contract budgets for State Fiscal Year 2021-2023 will continue for State Fiscal Year 2024-2026. The contracts will reflect any school district consolidations or amendments that have occurred from July 1, 2020 to present.

SDAC Invoices – Fourth Quarter

SDAC Quarterly Claim submission will open June 12, 2023. Please enter the district's financial information into the SDAC application for the fourth quarter (i.e., April, May, June – AMJ 23). As a reminder, once the financial data has been entered, please send notification to Celina Fields at cfields@ed.sc.gov and Ophelia McClary at omclary@ed.sc.gov.

Once the district notifies the OMS that the financial information has been entered into the SDAC application, the district's invoice is generated by the OMS, and a notification email is sent to the district by the OMS. The district will not be able to view the invoice within the SDAC application until it has been generated by the OMS. Once the invoice is generated please review, print, sign, and scan the invoice to Celina Fields at cfields@ed.sc.gov and Ophelia McClary at omclary@ed.sc.gov. All invoices for the fourth quarter will need to be submitted for payment by June 28, 2023.

Fourth 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 fourth quarter. Please continue to complete the Personnel Roster Cost, Purchased Services and Supply Costs (Sec. I), District Wide Supervision and Support Costs (Sec. II) and District Wide Costs (Sec. III) within the SDAC application as it applies to your district. If you need assistance with the completion of your fourth quarter SDAC costs please contact Celina Fields by email at cfields@ed.sc.gov or by phone at 803-734-9180 or contact Ophelia McClary by email at omclary@ed.sc.gov or by phone at 843-372-2393.

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.

School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC)

SDAC Quarter Samples

The final fourth quarter (i.e., April, May, June – AMJ 23) sample was dated May 26, 2023. All fourth quarter samples should be completed no later than June 9, 2023. Any samples not completed by this date will be marked incomplete and will be counted against the districts' completion rate for the fourth quarter.

Special Needs Transportation (SNT)

GPS Software

The South Carolina Department of Education's Office of Transportation has been implementing the new statewide GPS routing software from Tyler Technologies over the past couple of years. Tyler Drive is the portion of the technology that will have an impact on SNT in the future. At this time, all districts using the Tyler Technology student transportation software, Traversa, must also use the paper attendance log to track SNT ridership. SCDE is working with Tyler Technologies for a reporting solution and will keep the districts informed of any changes.

Transportation Report: IEP Collection via Enrich

The IEP collection quarterly transportation report from Enrich needs to be submitted no later than June 15, 2023. The IEP information on the SNT students is needed to ensure the accurate processing of transportation claims for your district. If you have any questions, please contact Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov.

New Application

The new SNT Application is fully functional. District's SNT Coordinators may enter the bus information under the "Bus Management" tab, driver information under the "Driver Assignment" tab, and student information under the "Student Information" tab in the new SNT application. SNT Coordinators may also log the attendance under the "Ridership" Tab in the new SNT application. Currently, there are no changes pending for the application. The project was considered closed as of May 1, 2023, and no further changes will be made to the application. Please make sure that all ridership is keyed and current by June 30, 2023.

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 next quarterly QA meeting will be held on June 8, 2023. Meeting invitations have been sent to district Medicaid Coordinators, RBHS Coordinators, and Special Education Directors.

The quarterly meetings are open to all LEA service providers and staff (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 to your district's assigned EA or the OMS at medicaidservices@ed.sc.gov.

Bi-Monthly SDAC Meeting

The next bi-monthly SDAC meeting will be held on June 7, 2023. The meeting will focus on completing/updating the participant roster for the next school year and the trainings required for participants.

Meeting invitations will be sent to district SNT Coordinators two weeks prior to the meeting. If you have any questions or need to add a topic to the training, please reach out to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov.

Monthly SNT Meeting

The last monthly SNT meeting was held on May 18, 2023. The meeting focused on the completion of ridership logs, update of Tyler Technologies interface/impact to current process, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) since the last meeting. Thanks to all that attended!

The next monthly SNT meeting will be held on June 14, 2023. The meeting will focus on the FAQ's asked since the last meeting. The remainder of the time will be an open forum for questions.

Meeting invitations will be sent to district SNT Coordinators two weeks prior to the meeting. If you have any questions or need to add a topic to the training, please reach out to Ronette Weeks at rmweeks@ed.sc.gov.

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.